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USSR-U.S. GENEVA ARMS TALKS TO RESUME 30 MAY

LD231211 Moscow TASS in English 1206 GMT 23 Apr 85

[Text] Geneva April 23 TASS -- Soviet and U.S. delegations held a full-scale meeting today, which concluded the first round of talks on nuclear and space arms. The opening date for the next round of the talks was set for May 30, 1985.

DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE STATES ISSUE STATEMENT

LD232120 Moscow TASS in English 1823 GMT 23 Apr 85

[Text] Geneva April 23 TASS -- Socialist countries participating in the Geneva disarmament conference, which ended its spring session here today, made a joint statement in which they stress the historical worldwide importance of victory over fascism 40 years ago, the decisive contribution to which was made by the Soviet Union.

Today it is more important than ever before, the document says, for all the states regardless of differences in their social systems and ideologies to join forces in the struggle against the danger of another world war. The authors of the statement call upon other participants in the conference to direct their efforts at achieving practical results in disarmament, in particular, at reaching agreement on the prohibition of all nuclear weapons tests, on a freeze on nuclear arms arsenals, on prevention of the militarisation of space, and on practical measures to avert nuclear wars.

[Moscow TASS in English at 1855 GMT on 23 April in a similar report adds: "The conference will resume its work June 11."]

UN WORLD DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE OPENS IN NEW YORK

LD222156 Moscow TASS in English 2025 GMT 22 Apr 85

[Text] New York April 22 TASS -- The United Nations Special Committee for a World Disarmament Conference has opened its first session this year. The high-level conference, to draw representatives from all states, is called upon to become an important stage in mobilizing efforts for curbing the arms race and averting the war menace.

The idea of convening the conference was advanced by the Soviet Union in 1971 and has won broad international support ever since. The committee's report, submitted to the session's participants, stresses that according to the Soviet Union, the world disarmament conference could work out effective approaches to restraining the race of armaments and implementing practical steps in this area. It would be an important distinguishing feature of the conference if it brought about not merely recommendations, but concrete practical solutions which the states would undertake to implement.

WEU FAILS TO AGREE ON SDI RESEARCH PARTICIPATION

LD231848 Moscow TASS in English 1828 GMT 23 Apr 85

[Text] Bonn April 23 TASS -- The Western European Union today ended here its two-day session at the level of foreign and defence ministers of the seven participating countries.

The main purpose of the session was to work out the union's common stand on the "Strategic Defence Initiative" of Washington, which had invited the member-states of the union to contribute to "star wars" research. However, the final communique of the session and statements by participants in it at a press conference indicate that they failed to agree on a joint reply to Washington's proposal. They only agreed, according to the communique, to continue efforts to reach, insofar as possible, a concerted response of their governments to the U.S. invitation.

Generally speaking, the results of the Bonn session and its decisions testify to the desire of the member-countries of the union to reinforce that "European bulwark" of the aggressive military alliance NATO and to broaden cooperation in the arms build-up.

European-U.S. Views Analyzed

LD241047 Moscow TASS in English 1027 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Moscow April 24 TASS -- By TASS military writer Vladimir Chernyshev:

Representatives of seven member states of the Western European Union, at their two-day conference in Bonn, attempted to work out a common stance on the question of the so-called "Strategic Defence Initiative" of the United States. They failed in their attempts, which is quite explicable. Too many Western Europeans showed caution with regard to Washington's "invitation" to take part in "star wars" research.

Western Europe is concerned over the threat posed by the "star wars" project both to European and universal peace. The disruption of military-political stability and the launching of another spiral in the race of armaments -- both defensive and offensive -- would sharply enhance the risk of war. The conferees are also worried over the possible creation within NATO of "security zones" at different levels -- higher for the United States and lower for Western Europe. In this connection, the Western Europeans would face the greater likelihood of nuclear war being limited within the continent.

Washington officials are following with great attention the "star wars" debate in Western Europe. Well, it is not the rule of the U.S. Administration to ask opinion of its allies (President Reagan proclaimed his "initiative" without any consultations with them), but it has applied much effort to draw Western European countries into its "space" adventure. It was claimed, for instance, that what is needed so far is consent to "research", while the decision to deploy the space-based defence system will be adopted only after consultations with the allies. What is actually happening, however, is that some U.S. spokesmen refer to the "limited" situation, while others openly refute the thesis. Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee Richard Lugar bluntly declared that the Western Europeans should not think they will benefit from the technological programme without assuming responsibility for its implementation.

Western Europe's approval of the American "initiative" would mean endorsement of the militarization of outer space, complicity in undermining the ABM treaty and disrupting the process of limiting and reducing armaments.

In a bid to win over Western Europe, Washington officials resort to confusing pronouncements of all sorts. U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger, for instance, told the French magazine LE POINT that the American anti-misile defence system will be developed in order to protect both Europe and the United States. The system will be, allegedly, "total" and "reliable" to an equal degree for the United States and its allies.

So, there is no cause for concern to the Western Europeans over the appearance of "security zones" at different levels for the American and European Continents. U.S. Assistant Secretary of Defense Richard Perle explained the "equal security" thesis in a different way: "Security" will be the same for the United States and Europe, but this "equality" will be reflected in the absence of reliable security. He said he does not believe the United States would ever develop a defense system that would ensure full protection against a nuclear strike.

Perle "explains" eagerly why the United States needs the space-based defense system. "Nuclear deterrence", that is offensive nuclear forces, will continue to underlie security. It is much more difficult to devise a system, he told LE POINT magazine, that would protect civilian population, rather than military targets alone. Therefore, one cannot rule out the possibility that defense of only military facilities will be ensured at the first stage. It is perfectly clear that "explanations" of this kind may only heighten the anxiety of the Western Europeans.

Not all Western European politicians, however, look at things in a realistic way. There are irresponsible leaders who try to persuade Western Europe to back the American "star wars" plan. Otherwise, they claim, Western Europeans may find themselves pushed aside from high technology reserves and, what is most important, from multi-billion dollar orders. The position of the West German Government, which seeks to lure other Western European countries into the orbit of Washington's dangerous policy, can be assessed only in this way.

However, more and more people in Western Europe come to realize the possible consequences of this policy. Therefore, resistance is mounting to the reckless, irresponsible course of the Washington and Western European "star wars" advocates.

U.S. EXHIBITS 'OBSTRUCTIONIST' CONDUCT IN GENEVA

LD240759 Moscow TASS in English 0750 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Geneva April 24 TASS -- By TASS correspondent Yevgeniy Korzhev:

The first round of Soviet-American talks on nuclear and space armaments, held in Geneva from March 12, ended on April 23. The agreement on the subject and objectives of the talks, reached by the foreign ministers of the two countries at their meeting in January this year, was universally welcomed worldwide. Representatives of political and public circles in various countries positively assessed both the fact of the beginning of a new dialogue between the countries who are chiefly responsible for the fate of the world, and its aim -- that of working out effective accords directed at preventing an arms race in outer space and terminating it on earth, at limiting and reducing nuclear arms, and, ultimately, at fully eliminating them.

The Soviet side declared from the very beginning that it will firmly stick to the agreement and conduct the dialogue in a business-like, constructive way, will press for effective solutions while observing the principle of equality and equal security.

In turn, the American delegation also pledges to do its utmost to look for constructive and businesslike steps leading to peace and security. Its conduct, however, during the past six weeks, according to information that filtered into the Western press, and, primarily the entire course of the developments during that time, raise doubts as to the sincerity of these pledges. The American side's conduct, as news analysts observe, gives grounds for stating that Washington is pursuing other aims than reaching an accord with the Soviet Union.

It refuses altogether to discuss the issue of preventing the spread of the arms race into outer space simultaneously with the question of limiting and reducing nuclear armaments.

As a matter of fact, having agreed to the talks covering the entire complex of questions concerning nuclear and space arms -- strategic and medium-range -- the questions that are to be considered and resolved in their interrelationship, the United States failed to make a single step, a single gesture that would corroborate the seriousness of its intentions. On the contrary, in the field of strategic armaments, it stepped up the race of offensive strategic weapons, specifically the ballistic missile MX. The deployment of medium-range missiles continued in Western Europe. Fresh efforts were applied to prepare the implementation of President Ronald Reagan's so-called "Strategic Defence Initiative", dubbed a "star wars" programme.

Washington's emissaries worked hard to impose it on NATO partners, while in Geneva, the American delegation, wrote Swiss newspapers, praised the large-scale anti-missile defence system with space-based elements rather than discussed ways of preventing the militarization of outer space.

Just as characteristic is Washington's negative reaction to new Soviet peace initiatives directly related to the Geneva talks: a nuclear freeze, termination of the further deployment of missiles.

This proposal, however, as well as the USSR's announcement of the introduction of a moratorium on the deployment of its medium-range missiles in Europe till November this year were dismissed by the White House as "propaganda" that is of no interest whatsoever.

What then is of interest? Unbiased observers, raising the question, simultaneously ask what interest does the United States seek at the talks? Does it not regard them as a handy screen that makes it easier to prepare and carry out a new giant spiral in the arms race with a view to gaining domineering positions in the world, above all in the military sphere?

The United States sticks to a similarly obstructionist line at the other forum currently under way in Geneva -- the disarmament conference which ended on the same day its regular session without reaching essential results. Disregarding world public opinion, recorded in numerous resolutions of the U.N. General Assembly, and the demands by the majority of conferees, the United States and its NATO partners have for several years blocked the discussion at the conference of such major problems as total termination of nuclear weapon tests, prohibition of chemical weapons, a comprehensive disarmament programme, prevention of nuclear war, and other issues.

On the year of the 40th anniversary of the great victory over fascism and the formation of the United Nations Organization, the peoples of the world have the right to demand that this year become the year of the victory over the threat of nuclear war.

SUPREME SOVIET ANSWERS SCIENTISTS' ARMS REPORT

LD191124 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1855 GMT 18 Apr 85

[From "The World Today" program presented by Farid Seyful-Mulyukov]

[Text] The president of the World Federation of Scientific Workers, Professor Legay, has sent a report to the USSR Supreme Soviet on the theme: The Arms Race in Space Must Be Stopped. The document reveals the danger inherent in plans to use space for military purposes.

It has also been sent to the heads of state and parliaments of a number of other countries.

The Soviet Embassy in Paris has conveyed the reply of the Supreme Soviet Presidium to Professor Legay. It reads: We in the Soviet Union share the main assessments and conclusions contained in the report. It is difficult, for example, not to agree with the result of this investigation indicating that the militarization of space, and in particular, the setting up in the United States of a space-based antimissile defense system will have a profoundly destabilizing effect on the world strategic situation and will increase the threat of an outbreak of nuclear war. The Soviet Union urges, in the interests of mankind, that the militarization of space must be prevented and international accords reached on banning the use of force in space or from space in relation to earth. Our country has proposed that the USSR and United States should introduce, for the duration of the Soviet-U.S. talks in Geneva, a moratorium on the development -- including scientific research -- testing, and deployment of strike weapons in space, and freeze their strategic weapons. At the same time, the deployment of U.S. medium-range missiles in Europe, and, correspondingly, the buildup of our retaliatory measures, should cease. Once again displaying goodwill, the Soviet Union has introduced a moratorium on the deployment of its medium-range missiles and halted the implementation of other retaliatory measures in Europe until this November.

We in the Soviet Union, says the reply of the USSR Supreme Soviet to the message from the president of the World Federation of Scientific Workers, share the desire of that organization to not allow a new, space dimension to be added to the arms race, and to do everything possible to ensure that the conquest of space is implemented exclusively for peaceful purposes and for the benefit of all peoples.

KULIKOV CHAIRS PACT CONFERENCE ON WORLD WAR II

PM230923 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 20 Apr 85 Second Edition p 5

[Unnamed "Our Correspondent" report: "Conference Held"]

[Text] A theoretical conference "Forty Years Since the Great Victory Over Fascism" has been held at the Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces Headquarters. The conference was opened by Marshal of the Soviet Union V.G. Kulikov, commander in chief of the Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces.

The report "The Worldwide Historic Significance of the Victory Over Fascism. The Decisive Role of the Soviet Union in the Rout of Hitler's Germany and the Liberation of the Peoples of Europe from Fascist Enslavement" was delivered by Army General A.I. Gribkov, chief of staff of the Joint Armed Forces. The conference was addressed by Lieutenant General K.G. Radonov (Bulgaria); Major General G. Farkas (Hungary); Lieutenant General G. Steiger (GDR National People's Army); Division General S. (Antos) (Polish Armed Forces); Major General D. Panescu (Romanian Army); Colonel B.M. Yablokov (USSR Armed Forces); and Lieutenant General B. Kucera (Czechoslovak People's Army).

In his concluding speech, Marshal of the Soviet Union V.G. Kulikov emphasized that as long as the threat of an imperialist attack persists and lovers of military adventures remain, the personnel of the Joint Armed Forces, rallied in single international formation, will continue to display high political vigilance and constantly improve their combat skill.

MOSCOW PUBLIC MEETING MARKS BANDUNG ANNIVERSARY

LD232121 Moscow TASS in English 1938 GMT 23 Apr 85

["Solidarity With Nonaligned Countries" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow April 23 TASS -- The Soviet Union, like the entire socialist community supports efforts of nonaligned countries to establish a new international economic and information order, to ensure a just political settlement of disputes and conflicts caused by the policy of imperialism, says a resolution passed by a public meeting in Moscow to mark the 30th anniversary of the Bandung Conference.

Addressing the audience, Ivan Kalin, vice-president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, made note of a special place of the Bandung Conference in the history of the national liberation movement. It heralded to the world that the peoples of former colonies emerged on the international scene as equal participants in the life of the world. The Bandung Conference was the first to formulate general tasks of overcoming age-old backwardness of African and Asian countries, attaining economic independence and complete liberation from colonial oppression.

The decisions of the Bandung Conference had a pronounced anti-imperialist orientation, Ivan Kalin went on to say. They were developed further in such large-scale social and political phenomena of the present time, as the Nonaligned Movement.

The "Ten Principles of Peaceful Coexistence" proclaimed by the Bandung Conference acquire special importance today, thirty years after it was held, Ivan Kalin stressed. These principles include such important provisions as respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of all nations, abstention from any act or threat of aggression. Such principles (?promote) an improvement of the situation in the world. The Nonaligned Movement among other things makes a major contribution to the effort of all peace forces to avert the threat of nuclear war [words indistinct] the arms race. Ivan Kalin made note of the important part played by India in the Nonaligned Movement headed currently by Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi of India.

The meeting was attended by members of the diplomatic corps accredited to the Soviet Union and foreign guests.

IAEA MEETING ON NUCLEAR REACTORS OPENS IN DRESDEN

LD232148 Moscow TASS in English 2059 GMT 23 Apr 85

[Text] Berlin April 23 TASS -- A meeting of experts of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) that opened in Dresden today discusses problems of developing measuring equipment for water-cooled nuclear reactors. The meeting is attended by about 70 researchers from IAEA member-countries. The three-day meeting is co-sponsored by the IAEA Working Group on Nuclear Power Plant Inspection and Control and the Central Institute for Nuclear Research at the Academy of Sciences of the GDR.

USSR ATTENDS HUMAN RIGHTS CONFERENCE IN OTTAWA

LD231726 Moscow TASS in English 1654 GMT 23 Apr 85

[Text] Ottawa April 23 TASS -- Preparatory sittings of an expert conference on human rights, convened under a decision of the Madrid follow-up meeting of the states participating in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, opened here today.

They are attended by delegations of 35 states, including a delegation from the Soviet Union led by Ambassador Vsevolov Sofinskiy.

The attendees are to work out the agenda and program of work for the expert conference or human rights slated to open in Ottawa on May 17.

The first sitting was addressed with a speech of greeting by International Relations Minister Monique Vezina.

WFTU LAUNCHES APPEAL FOR ANTONOV'S RELEASE

LD240212 Moscow TASS in English 1919 GMT 23 Apr 85

[Text] Prague April 23 TASS -- Speaking on behalf of more than 200 million of its members, the World Federation of Trade Unions today launched an appeal to unfold an international campaign for the immediate release of Sergey Antonov, a citizen of the People's Republic of Bulgaria.

Large segments of the world public, a statement released here points out, denounce the false charges against Sergey Antonov and view his arrest as an act of political provocation of the reactionary forces aimed at escalating an anti-Bulgarian and anti-socialist propaganda campaign.

The World Federation of Trade Unions, the documents says, strongly protests against this farce and, in keeping with a decision taken by the latest session of the WFTU Bureau, sent a letter to the Italian president, demanding the immediate release of the Bulgarian citizen.

U.S. CLAIMS OF USSR PRESENCE IN NICARAGUA DENIED

PM231250 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 23 Apr 85 Second Edition p 3

[Lieutenant Colonel Yu. Borin "Rejoinder": "The Washington Liars"]

[Text] During the undeclared war against the Sandinist People's Revolution, Washington, as is well known, stoops to both disinformation and slander. However, the other day the specialists from the U.S. intelligence organs outdid even themselves. A uniquely impertinent and insanely sensational report concocted by them has been circulated: In the zone of combat operations by Nicaraguan Government forces against the CIA mercenary formations of "contras", the presence of...Soviet servicemen has allegedly been discovered. Just so, no less. This provocative "canard" could have been envied even by Goebbels' propaganda specialists.

In order to give this provocative scheme a veneer of plausibility, the "cloak and dagger knights" even significantly identify a specific locality in northern Nicaragua -- the Ocotal region -- where anyone who wants to can allegedly see Russians walking about, but the trouble is that the U.S. intelligence officers cannot yet say exactly what functions the Soviet officers are carrying out: "either leaders of military operations, advisers, or simply observers." True, certain U.S. officials who wish to remain anonymous have rushed to their aid and these "informed and reliable sources" have reported that a group of Soviet military specialists is in Nicaragua allegedly to construct a "communications system making it possible to rapidly detect the positions of 'contra' detachments." Moreover, they are said to be engaged in "signals intelligence activity..."

Commenting on these reports, State Department spokesman Djerejian "meaningfully" stated: We "do not discuss information containing references to intelligence sources," in other words, you either believe it or you don't. The calculation is simple. Sensation-hung U.S. citizens should believe this lie; they know from reports in the local press about the participation of their "volunteer" fellow countrymen, more accurately, mercenaries paid by the CIA, in the subversive operations against Nicaragua. Why should they not believe in the presence of "Soviet servicemen" in Nicaragua?

Of course, the "sensational discoveries in northern Nicaragua" can be said to be the fruit of a diseased imagination, but the statements about these "discoveries" are by no means accidental. They are necessary, especially now that the U.S. Administration is "strong-arming" congressmen, forcing them to vote for the appropriation of an additional $14 million in aid to the Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries. "A vote against the proposal," the White House incumbent himself asserts, "will literally be a vote against peace." So there!

The CIA-trained Somocista formations of so-called "freedom-fighters" are by no means feeling very well. The bandits know their days are numbered. The Nicaraguan patriots defending freedom and independence are successfully defeating the "contra" formations, which is why the Washington disinformers needed the fabrications about "Soviet officers" to justify in some way the constant failures of the operations of the "gentlemen in Nicaragua working on contracts with the CIA."

The fantasies about the alleged presence of Soviet military specialists in Nicaragua are a crude provocation. This provication is aimed at further exacerbating the situation in the Central America region and at distracting public attention from the U.S. military's dangerous militarist games constantly being held in direct proximity to the borders of the motherland of the Sandinist people's revolution.

As the aforesaid Djerejian stated, "One of the U.S. objectives as regards Nicaragua is to end its military links and links in the security sphere with Cuba and the Soviet bloc countries." In other words, Washington is striving to stifle the Nicaraguan revolution, and to that end it is prepared to do anything -- up to and including open aggression.

Meanwhile it is circulating provocative anti-Soviet nonsense...

HOUSE TURNS DOWN REQUEST FOR AID TO NICARAGUA

LD240635 Moscow TASS in English 0625 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Washington April 24 TASS -- The U.S. House of Representatives on Tuesday turned down by 248 votes against 180 the request of the Reagan administration on allocation in the current fiscal year of 14 million dollars as aid to terroristic gangs of Somoza men.

The biggest defeat of the Reagan administration in foreign policy -- this is how the ABC television company described the outcome of the vote. As is noted by observers, though a few hours before that the Senate, the majority in which belongs to the ruling Republican Party, approved the administration's request, the vote at the House of Representatives is of special significance. The White House in the past few days exerted quite an effort to influence congressmen, having made support for Somoza men as a principled question of its foreign policy.

In the course of ten-hour-long debates that were held on the threshold of the vote at the House of Representatives many legislators stigmatized the policy of state terrorism which Washington conducts with regard to Nicaragua. The policy conducted by the administration is illegal, unjust. It has no support of the overwhelming majority of the U.S. population, said Congressmen David Bonior, Democrat from Michigan. That policy, he noted, draws the country into the widening war in Central America.

USIA BROADCASTS 'TELEPROPAGANDA' TO W. EUROPE

LD232320 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0302 GMT 23 Apr 85

[Text] Washington, 23 Apr (TASS) -- The Reagan administration is using television more and more actively for the purpose of waging a psychological war. Charles Wick, director of the U.S. Information Agency, has stated that the Worldnet global television network set up by this department of official Washington propaganda has begun daily broadcasting to the West European countries. Using the Intelsat satellite communication system, the USIA intends to broadcast to Western Europe programs prepared in Washington, which are to "improve the understanding of West Europeans of the policies and life of the United States."

Just how Washington intends to do this has been vividly demonstrated by the first portion of Washington's official telepropaganda sent to Western Europe. The entire broadcast was devoted to President Reagan's plans -- which have caused a storm of indignation in the world -- to pay a visit during his FRG trip to the Bitburg cemetery where SS butchers and other "warriors" of Hitler's Wehrmacht are buried.

U.S. PLANS TO OPEN RADIO STATION IN PAKISTAN

LD211640 Moscow TASS in English 1608 GMT 21 Apr 85

[Text] New Delhi April 21 TASS -- TASS correspondent B. Zaytsev reports:

The United States is intensifying a psychological warfare against sovereign south and south-west Asian states. In addition to the already existing mouthpieces of lie and slander in the region, Washington intends to open a big branch of the "Free Europe" radio station, which is on the CIA payroll, in Pakistan in the near future.

The United States is preparing for putting into operation a branch of the radio station, which is known for its ideological provocations against the socialist countries and a frenzied propaganda of militarism, the BLITZ weekly writes. A certain A. Einfrank, a rabid anti-communist and author of libellous scribbles about the situation in Afghanistan, which are widely disseminated through the U.S. Embassy in New Delhi, has been appointed as its chief. The task of the subversive centre, which is being set up by the U.S. espionage agency, is to step up a slanderous campaign against Afghanistan, India and other independent countries, BLITZ points out. A great deal of attention will be paid to stirring up chauvinistic sentiments in India, in the first place, among the advocates of creating the so-called "independent Khalistan" in the republic's territory with a view to provoking them into actions against the central government.

The intensification of the psychological warfare is a sequel to the policy of state terrorism and gross interference in the internal affairs of independent nations, pursued by Washington, the local press writes. By making use of subversive centres, Washington is eager to divide the states in the region, to weaken their struggle for turning the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace and against the Pentagon's miltiary presence, the newspaper NATIONAL HERALD writes.

TASS CRITICIZES U.S.-ISRAEL FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

LD231339 Moscow TASS in English 0624 GMT 23 Apr 85

[Text] Washington April 23 TASS -- Washington and Tel Aviv have made yet another step along the lines of strengthening their "strategic cooperation". A so-called "agreement on a zone of free trade" between the two countries has been signed here. A spokesman of the Department of State has said that the document envisages the removal of trade and tariff barriers between the two countries. He said that this is an important and positive step in the development of the two countries' bilateral economic relations.

Washington does not try to conceal that the new agreement serves as yet another "prop" for Israel which experiences most acute economic difficulties. A disproportionately huge share of that country's national resources is being used for a build-up of military might and for aggressive allies against Arab countries.

U.S. STEPS UP 'ANTI-LIBYAN CAMPAIGN' AGAIN

PM231407 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Apr 85 Morning Edition p 4

[V. Rumyantsev article under the "Notes Appropos" rubric: "In Washington's Sights"]

[Text] In the past few days the U.S. capital has again been addressing bellicose statements at Tripoli.

B. Kalb, U.S. State Department spokesman, directly threatened Libya by stating that it will "bear the responsibility" for its actions "against U.S. overseas interests." He has been copied by other equally senior officials, demanding "changes" in the line pursued by Libya.

What has irritated Washington and why do people on the Potomac see the policy of a country with a population of just 3.5 million as a "threat" to America's vital interests? The immediate cause of this new eruption of the anti-Libyan campaign was the holding in Tripoli of a conference with anti-imperialist watchwords attended by a number of political parties and social organizations representing a broad ideological spectrum of political forces in the Arab world.

The national command of Arab revolutionary forces formed in Tripoli to represent those organizations at the conference proclaimed as its main aims resolute opposition to Israeli aggression and a struggle against imperialist military bases and against the capitulatory Camp David line in the Near East settlement imposed by the White House and Arab reaction. This proved enough for the White House to see the resolutions adopted in the Libyan capital as a threat to its "vital interests" and to rapidly hurl a stream of false accusations against Libya.

One cannot fail to notice that the present anti-Libyan campaign coincided with the bringing into combat readiness of ships of the U.S. 6th Fleet in the Mediterranean, the expansion of Israel's bloody repression in south Lebanon, and the escalation of imperialism's aggressive actions in other parts of the world. Regarding Libya, attempts to overthrow its government have long been an area of the present U.S. Administration's activity.

After the well-known Gulf of Sidra incident in which fighters belonging to the U.S. 6th Fleet shot down two Libyan patrol planes, the United States, aided by its NATO allies, has been trying out all methods of pressuring Libya -- ranging from economic blockade, the recall of U.S. oil specialists, and a ban on Libyan oil imports to provocative maneuvers near Libya's borders and the enflaming of artificial conflicts between Libya and its neighbors.

The propaganda myth about Libyan "terrorists," who allegedly plotted an attempt on the life of the U.S. President, was a notorious scandal at one time. Washington for a long time could not repudiate it even when the U.S. press published irrefutable evidence to show that this fiction had been concocted equally by experts from the CIA and the Israeli intelligence service MOSSAD.

As reports from Tripoli demonstrate, U.S. blackmail has been firmly rebuffed this time, too. According to a Libyan leadership statement, Washington's verbal brinkmanship has merely demonstrated to the whole world once again its imperialist and racist nature and its "hostile attitude toward Arab and other peoples struggling for liberation." The Libyan people are countering the U.S. side's policy of threats and direct military pressure by their firm will and determination to pursue their chosen path of independent development.

U.S. PLANS TO TRANSFER BASES TO TURKEY VIEWED

LD191946 Moscow in Turkish to Turkey 1300 GMT 19 Apr 85

[Text] According to U.S. press reports, the future of U.S. military bases in Greece is currently under discussion at the U.S. Department of Defense. It will be recalled that the Greek Government announced that it will not extend its existing bases agreement with the United States which runs out in 1988.

Now the Pentagon is busy looking for a place to transfer its Greek bases to. The strategists in the Pentagon turn their gaze, in the first place, to Turkey. This is because, as the U.S. papers state, the United States considers Turkey one of its most loyal allies and is pinning its hopes on Turkey for its adventurist plans for setting up armed provocations in the Near East, the eastern Mediterranean, and other countries which are Turkey's neighbors. The U.S. press also notes that Turkey, together with Italy and Greece, was until now the NATO and U.S. base of operations against the socialist countries and Middle East regimes that did not suit the United States. And now, as THE WALL STREET JOURNAL says, Washington is hopeful that the American area of military operations in the southwestern wing of NATO will be preserved after U.S. bases in Greece are transferred to Turkey and when northern Cyprus takes the place of Greece. According to reports in the U.S. press, the United States will not be satisfied by transferring its military bases to Turkey: It is now preparing the ground for adding several more to its many bases there. As always, Washington is resorting to its longstanding method of the carrot and the stick. To inspire fear, it is advancing the tale of the Soviet threat; for inducement, it is promising to increase its so-called aid.

At the same time, guarantees are being given that the bases will be joint U.S.-Turkish defense installations and that Turkey will share equal rights with the United States in them. The truth is that, as the Turkish papers point out, the United States has long made promises like these. In particular, they have long promised that the U.S. bases shall be joint installations, but ever since these bases were established in the 1950's, America has been ruling high and mighty in them. Recent incidents at the Incirlik naval [as heard] base prove this point. U.S. soldiers let dogs loose on Turkish workers there who protest body searches by U.S. guards. Six of the workers have been taken to the hospital with grave injuries.

According to certain reports in the press, the question of the transfer of U.S. military bases in Greece to Turkey was also touched upon during Prime Minister Turgut Ozal's recent visit to Washington. It was disclosed at the same time that the Pentagon intended to establish another base in the Canakkale Straits area.

As you can see, dear listeners, the Pentagon's militarist appetite is getting keener. This is exactly the source of the concern which Turkish public opinion feels and the Turkish press writes about on the intention of the United States to impose new military bases in Turkey.

U.S. POLICY OF 'IMPERIAL DIKTAT' TRACED

LD221942 Moscow TASS in English 1914 GMT 22 Apr 85

["Washington's Policy of Imperial Diktat" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow April 22 TASS -- By TASS news analyst Leonid Ponomarev:

15 years ago, on April 23, 1970, six U.S. warships carrying 2,000 Marines approached the coasts of Trinidad and Tobago, a small insular state in the Caribbean, and landed a force. Anti-government demonstrations were taking place on the islands at that time. To justify its invasion, the Washington leaders used the trite method of claiming that the lives of American citizens and tourists on the islands were "in jeopardy", The wave of protests against the landing of American troops swept over countries in the Western Hemisphere, forcing the United States to pull out its troops from Trinidad and Tobago several days later. However, U.S. administrations continue till nowadays to resort to landing American troops for interference in the internal affairs of other countries.

The American aggression against tiny Grenada in October 1983 followed the same scenario. Under the hypocritical pretext of "defence of American citizens", U.S. invaders deposed the legitimate regime and installed their puppets by the force of arms.

Way back in 1965, Washington staged a similar intervention into the Dominican Republic whose population fought for better living conditions and against American domination.

These and other instances, like the sending of American Marines into Lebanon, show that Washington administrations resort to imperial dictate in [word indistinct] impose their will to other peoples and governments. The reasons for Washington's "displeasure" and its readiness to send its Armed Forces into another country may vary greatly.

The American adventure in Vietnam: Washington simply wanted to preserve by crude force its puppets in South Vietnam, and in order to attain its objective it launched bloody aggression.

The U.S. undeclared war against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan is also a variety of imperial diktat by Washington whose leadership believes it has the right to interfere freely in the internal affairs of other states and governments in all parts of the world. It is from the positions of world gendarme that the Reagan administration is waging an undeclared war on Nicaragua. In one of his recent statements Reagan went as far as declaring that he does not like the Nicaraguan Government's political course and domestic economic transformation. That was enough for him to proclaim Nicaragua to be America's worst enemy. As a matter of fact, Nicaragua does no harm to the American people, nor to any other people.

The U.S. President unceremoniously dictates to countries in Central America, Asia and Africa with whom they can maintain friendly relations, with whom they may trade and even what they should buy from them. At present, having actually severed trade and economic links with Nicaragua, the White House chief directs his efforts at support for the Nicaraguan counter-revolutionaries who are fighting against their own people.

Years pass, but the instruments of U.S. aggressive policy remain unchanged. These are, above all, landing of American Marines, economic blockade and sanctions, mining of ports, etc. This is by far a complete list of means used by Washington in its policy of international plunder and terrorism against countries and governments which seek to pursue a course independently from the United States.

U.S. STEALTH PROGRAM HIT IN SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA

PM231133 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 23 Apr 85 First Edition p 3

[A. Mozgovoy article under the rubric "Disarmament: Who Is Against?": "Operation 'Theft'"]

[Text] There did not appear to be anything unusual happening. Passengers were boarding an aircraft at Los Angeles airport, but CBS TV reporters noticed that the airliner did not bear any markings.

To whom did the aircraft belong? Where was it flying? Who were its passengers? It was not easy to get answers, but in the end the journalists managed to get some.

The airliner, which belongs to the U.S. Air Force, was flying northeast -- to Nevada, where Nellis Air Force Base is located in the desert, far removed from human eyes. The passengers were workers, technicians, and engineers of military-industrial corporations. They are employed at Nellis Air Force Base to service the top-secret fighters and bombers which have been created under the Stealth program.

The English word "stealth" has several meaning: "Cunning," "subterfuge," "theft." It derives from the verb "to steal." All these concepts accord perfectly with the aims of the Pentagon program code-named Stealth. The American military has conceived the idea of replenishing its lethal arsenals with aircraft and missiles which would be "invisible" to radar. They intend to achieve this by using special materials for the outer casing, saturating aircraft with efficient electronic countermeasures, and reducing the engines' heat emission. Finally, the unusual design of the airframe itself is intended to "soften" the reflection of radio waves.

Why are such strategems necessary? To penetrate air defenses and inflict a surprise nuclear strike. "Invisible and inaudible from the ground, Stealth will sneak up on its victim like a ghost." In such a way, the "merits" of the new weapon are unashamedly publicized on the other side of the ocean. A legitimate question arises: How does the Stealth program conform with the "Strategic Defense Initiative" proclaimed by the White House, whose realization will, it is said, make offensive weapons "unnecessary and useless"? In no way does it conform with it, which, incidentally, embarrasses few people in Washington!

"I cannot go into details," George Keyworth, science adviser to the American President, argues with regard to the "invisible" aircraft, "but if we work quickly, then we will maintain a potential advantage for a long time" Consequently, it is a question of another U.S. attempt to gain military superiority in order to dictate its will to the world. "An invisible aircraft has high political visibility," THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR remarked in this connection.

Stealth, SDI, and the Pentagon's other latest militarist programs essentially catapult the arms race into the 21st century. Washington planners have clearly set themselves the aim of stealing the hope of a peaceful future not only from the present but also from future generations.

Those who are stealing the future are generously provided with funds from the U.S. federal budget. The Senate Armed Services Committee recently approved in full a Pentagon request for appropriations to be allocated under the Stealth program in 1986. The figure is secret, but to judge from calculations made by David Morrison, an employee of Washington's Military Problems Information Center, it will increase 50 percent compared with the current fiscal year.

Plant No 42 in the southern California city of Palmdale is now being hurriedly modernized. It is at this enterprise that it is planned to start up the production of "invisible" ATB bombers. The main contractor, Northrop Corporation, has already received $4 billion from the administration. In all, the company will require more than $30 billion for the aircraft's development and series production.

Another giant of the militarist business, Lockheed, is not lagging behind Northrop. Experimental "invisible" F-19 fighter-bombers are being assembled at the corporation's plant in Burbank, also in California, the present U.S. President's home state. Each such aircraft costs $100 million. Operation "Theft" is proceeding successfully!

The gangsters of the American military-industrial complex are not only chasing the hard cash of profits, they are also seeking to reap political or, more accurately, propaganda dividends. It takes a certain inventiveness to din into American's heads the "Soviet threat" myth, under cover of which more and more new militarist programs are being forced through. Not that the businessmen of death and their Washington partners indulge in crafty sophistry. The chief thing is to inflame passions, and it is possible to extort any number of billions from Congress on the quiet.

...The telephone rang in the USSR Consulate in San Francisco. Some unknown person proposed that "particularly secret materials" be bought from him. The proposition was rejected; however, the "invisibile man" did not give up. The next day a messenger turned up from him with a letter in which "Mr Smith" insistently demanded money in exchange for information about Stealth bomber production technology. Of course, that attempt was not crowned with success either. Then Smith, alias Peters and Hudson, set about bombarding the consulate general with new messages, without result.

The flywheel of provacation continued to spin however. Soon the U.S. FBI announced the arrest of a "spy," who was said to be working at the firm of Northrop and "passing secrets to the Russians." Naturally, that falsehood was splashed onto newspaper pages and television screens. Neither facts nor proof, but the "Soviet threat" in closeup!

Meanwhile, tests of "invisible" aircraft are continuing at Nellis Air Force Base. Sometimes things take a tragic turn. A year ago U.S. news agencies briefly reported: "Lieutenant General Robert Bond has died. The aircraft he was flying went out of control. The pilot managed to eject. His parachute opened, but the pilot was already dead when he reached the ground." The Pentagon wanted to conceal the reasons for the crash and its whereabouts, but scant details nonetheless found their way into the press. "Sector 51" of the Nevada test range over which Bond was flying is one of the U.S. military department's most secret sites. According to THE LOS ANGELES TIMES, the lieutenant general was using the "invisible" aircraft to rehearse variants of "operations close to the USSR or over its territory."

The FBI agents had plainly gotten the wrong address when they sought spies in the Soviet consulate general. Success would certainly have awaited them at Nellis Air Force Base, but not even FBI detectives are admitted there.

So, the Pentagon, Northrop, Lockheed, and others like them have launched into another race for the spectral chimera of superiority, but it is easier to create a perpetual-motion engine than an ultimate weapon. Stealth is no exception: First, as the aircraft's designers themselves admit, it will not be possible to achieve full "invisibility"; second, every action in the strategic sphere provokes a counteraction. Superiority will once again prove to be a mirage, inevitably the result of operation "Theft," which has been undertaken by the American military-industrial complex.

IZVESTIYA CITES DPRK PAPER ON KIM YONG-NAM VISIT

PM231012 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Apr 85 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "At a New Level"]

[Text] Pyongyang, 20 Apr -- The DPRK mass media have reported the reception by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, of DPRK Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam, member of the Workers Party of Korea [WPK] Central Committee Politburo and deputy vice premier of the Administration Council, who is on an official friendly visit to the USSR.

NODONG SINMUN, organ of the WPK Central Committee, front-pages a report on the reception and talks between USSR Foreign Minister A.A. Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and Kim Yong-nam and the signing of Soviet-Korean documents.

The newspaper stresses that the relations of friendship and cooperation between the USSR and the DPRK have reached a new level. They are expanding and growing stronger in the political, economic, cultural, and other spheres of cooperation between the two countries. Questions of further strengthening and developing them were discussed at the talks in Moscow, which were held in a friendly atmosphere.

The DPRK, the newspaper continues, supports the Soviet Union's peace-loving Leninist policy and the measures it has taken to avert a nuclear war. On the eve of the 40th anniversary of the victory over fascism, the Korean people again note the great role the Soviet Army played in routing German fascism and Japanese militarism and reject and condemn the attempts made in the West to belittle the USSR's role in World War II.

COMMENTATOR EXAMINES DPRK REUNIFICATION PROPOSAL

SK230716 Moscow International Service in Korean 0930 GMT 22 Apr 85

[Talk by station commentator Mikhaylov]

[Text] The question of rehabilitating Korea's (?identity) has been presented for a long time. A positive solution to this question will provide benefits for the Korean people who aspire for the fatherland's reunification. In addition, it will contribute to normalizing the situation on the Korean peninsula and removing a potential starting point of military conflict in this region. New constructive proposals adopted at the regular plenary session of the DPRK's SPA [Supreme People's Assembly] are dotted with such noble ideas. A series of concrete propositions was included in these proposals. If these propositions are realized, the dilemma facing the question of Korea's reunification will be eased. For example, stressing that direct talks between parliamentary delegates of the North and the South should be held, People's Korea pointed out that these talks could be held in the form of having delegates of one side participate in the national assembly of the other side with equal rights and duties or by the exchange of opinions between parliamentary delegations. As a practical measure, a discusion of the possiblity of adopting a joint declaration of nonaggression between the North and the South was proposed. No doubt, adopting such a declaration will contribute to easing tesnions and to improving relations between the two sides.

The repeated peace-loving and constructive proposals put forward by the Government of the DPRK and social organizations of the DPRK in an effort to overcome Korea's artificial division have won the consistent support of the Soviet Union and other fraternal socialist countries and the approval of all sincere people.

The Korean people can and must determine the destiny of their country without the interference of any foreign forces. To this end, the 42,000-strong U.S. forces should be withdrawn from the southern part of Korea and the Pentagon's numerous nuclear bases -- major obstacles to the reunification of the country -- should be removed. After this, delegates from the North and the South can get together at the negotiating table and find ways acceptable to both sides do resolve the whole nation's problem, that is, the fatherland's reunification.

The Soviet Union's fundamental and firm position on the Korean question was reiterated by General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Comrade Gorbachev in his meeting with Comrade Kim Yong-nam, member of the WPK Central Committee Political Bureau, first vice premier [as heard] of the DPRK State Administration Council, and minister of foreign affairs, now on an official visit to our country at the invitation of the Soviet Government. The significance of the new proposal by the DPRK in reducing tensions on the Korean peninsula was stressed at the meeting.

U.S. MILITARY MISSION TO JAPAN SEEKS SDI APPROVAL

LD231646 Moscow TASS in English 1537 GMT 23 Apr 85

[Text] Tokyo April 23 TASS -- TASS correspondent Viktor Zatsepin reports:

A United States military delegation has arrived here today to conduct talks on Japan's participation in the implementation of the notorious "star wars" programme put forward by the U.S. Administration. As is reported here, the delegation is to give certain "explanations" to the Japanese side on the essence of the so-called "Strategic Defence Initiative" [SDI] of the USA aimed at ensuring military superiority and launching the first nuclear strike.

Albeit the official authorities claim that Japan will take a decision on cooperation within the framework of that American programme, only after it gets convinced that the programme is truly of a defensive character, its representatives have already long, as a matter of fact, declared full support for it.

The readiness of Japan's ruling circles for cooperation with the USA in the light of that American "initiative", whose implementation will undoubtedly bring about a further escalation of the arms race, is a source of deep concern and has touched off protests from the country's broad public. Therefore the Government of Japan has decided to conduct with the USA a series of such "explanatory" talks in an attempt to bring down the momentum of the movement of protest against the dangerous plans of Japan's cooperation with the USA in the pursuit of the latter's adventurist designs and reassure the Japanese public.

CHARGES OF SS-20 DEPLOYMENT IN DRA DENIED

PM241024 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 24 Apr 85 First Edition p 3

[V. Dodonov article: "Trans-Atlantic 'Canards'; Rebuff to Slanderers"]

[Text] The recipe that Western correspondents use to cook up their anti-Soviet "canards" was worked out in the CIA's ideological "kitchen": inspire a "leak" of information, attribute it to some Western diplomats (without always naming them, incidentally), and then wrap it up in "details" and "commentaries." To make these rumors and fables circulated more convincing, they are abundantly spiced up with words such as "secret," "clandestine," and so forth.

What fabrications have appeared in the pages of JANE'S DEFENCE WEEKLY, about Afghanistan, for instance! Their authors have even gone so far as to dream up...the "secret deployment of Warsaw Pact troops in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan." Not troops from all the countries, it is true -- they were rather more modest and confined themselves merely to Bulgarians. Then this did not seem enough to the Western hacks, so they swiftly "moved" Cuban troops as well to the country from Angola! This nonsense was accompanied by so-called "objective information," and there were even reports of "eyewitnesses." All this is merely for the sake of dumbfounding the man in the street and feeding him a sensational "canard" stuffed with a sizable portion of shameless anti-Sovietism.

The latest such "well-hung fowl" has been produced by a UPI correspondent. He has penned a simply staggering fable. It transpires that around a year ago now the Soviet Union (secretly, of course!) deployed at Shindand in western Afghanistan (at a carefully guarded airbase, naturally!) 12 of the missiles that are known as SS-20's in the West. For greater authenticity it was even reported that the missiles are targeted on a secret U.S. facility in the Indian Ocean. This "dispatch" seems to contain the lot: what is being done, when, where, and why. The only thing it lacks is the truth.

This is natural. For a long time now militarist propaganda has been intimidating Western Europe with the Soviet SS-20 missiles. The dissemination of this slander pursues the vile aim of misrepresenting the Soviet Union's peace-loving foreign policy. Militarist circles in Washington want very much to camouflage with a figleaf of outright slander their own unsavory activity to support Afghan people's enemies -- the dushmans, who wallow in bloody deeds.

As Soviet leaders at the very highest level have repeatedly stated -- this has been published in the Soviet press -- our medium-range facilities, including the aforementioned SS-20's are deployed only on the Soviet Union's territory. There have been [no such missiles] and there are no such missiles in the DRA, and any rumors of their deployment there are a malevolent lie. The moratorium on the deployment of its medium-range missiles unilaterally reintroduced by the Soviet Union and its suspension of the implementation of other retaliatory measures in Europe -- that is the truth. The Soviet people are once again demonstrating their goodwill for peace and honest talks.

KARMAL ADDRESSES DRA GRAND TRIBAL ASSEMBLY

LD232056 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 23 Apr 85

[From the "Vremya" newscast -- V. Fadeyev video report]

[Text] The Loya Jirga [Grand Tribal Assembly], the supreme council of the DRA, began work in Kabul today. On the day before, mass demonstrations and a meeting were held in the country's capital.

[Begin Fadayev recording] The whole of working Kabul and the capital's public came out onto the squares and streets to wish the participants of the Loya Jirga successful work. The delegates to the Loya Jirga arrived from all provinces in the country. The composition of the delegates and the very course of the elections convincingly and eloquently attest to the fact that the Afghan people's ancient and glorious tradition of gathering together for general meetings to solve important questions of common national significance has always been alive, and in the conditions of the April Revolution it has taken on new sociopolitical content. The delegates, elected by the people, are to discuss matters of ensuring lasting peace and security in the country, ending the fratricidal war, and other issues concerning the foreign and internal policy of the state.

Babrak Karmal addressed the participants in the meeting. The Loya Jirga has been created in accordance with the wishes of millions of Afghans. It is being held in conditions of genuine freedom and democracy. The forum is to play a decisive role in the matter of ending aggression against the DRA. Let the enemies of free Afghanistan, headed by U.S. imperialism, know that the holding of the Loya Jirga demonstrates the inviolable unity of the whole Afghan people. Comrade Karmal underscored the significance of fraternal Afghan-Soviet friendship. The Soviet people, he declared, are today giving enormous, selfless, international aid to Afghanistan to assist it in warding off imperialist aggression and constructing a bright future for the country. In conclusion, the Afghan leader stressed that the historic decisions which will be adopted by the Loya Jirga will be the guidance for the activity of the PDPA and the revolutionary government. [end recording]

HEAD OF SRV STATE PLANNING COMMITTEE VISITS

Signs Rubber Agreement

PM230915 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Apr 85 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Agreement Signed"]

[Text] A general agreement was signed in Moscow 19 April between the USSR Government and the SRV Government on the further development of cooperation in the production of natural rubber in the SRV.

The agreement was signed by N.V. Talyzin, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and Vo Van Kiet, member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee Politburo, vice chairman of the SRV Council of Ministers, and chairman of the SRV State Planning Committee.

Received by Baybakov

PM231525 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Apr 85 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Friendly Talks"]

[Text] On 20 April N.K. Baybakov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR Gosplan, received Vo Van Kiet, vice chairman of the SRV Council of Ministers and chairman of the SRV State Planning Commission.

Questions connected with the further development of economic cooperation and the completion of work on coordinating the national economic plans of the USSR and the SRV for 1986-1990 were discussed during warm, friendly talks.

CAMBODIAN 'VICTORY OVER U.S. IMPERIALISM' RECALLED

PM190855 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 17 Apr 85 p 3

[Yu. Kuzmichev article: "Cambodia: Invincible People"]

[Text] Ten years ago the Cambodian people gained victory over U.S. imperialism and its proteges.

U.S. imperialism's adventure in Cambodia ended 17 April 1975 in total failure. The many years of intrigues, plots, secret operations, and air raids and the open aggression which followed against this small country of Indochina all ended in defeat. Neither the $1.85 billion of official military and ecnomic aid provided for the pro-U.S. regime, nor the "fattening" of its ministers, generals, and colonels from the U.S. special services' secret funds, nor the bombings which cost the U.S. taxpayers $7 billion -- none of this helped.

The brief agony of the so-called "Khmer republic" was accompanied by a feverish reshuffling in the regime's leadership. First the overseas bosses replaced the commander in chief of the puppet army, (Sosten Fernandez), who was too blatant an embezzler even for that thoroughly corrupt regime. On 1 April, having received half a million dollars' compensation, "Marshal" Lon Nol -- who had become unpopular even in Washington -- departed for Hawaii. Nonetheless under the blows of the patriots the puppet "republic" and its armed-to-the-teeth army continued to collapse. A circle tightened around the capital.

On 6 April the last U.S. ambassador, John Dean, was giving a lunch for U.S. journalists in his residence, but on the morning of 12 April he hastily lowered the stars and stripes, rolled it up and, carrying it under his arm, climbed ponderously aboard a military helicopter waiting near the embassy. A line of helicopters carrying the last Americans set course for the Gulf of Siam where an aircraft carrier of the U.S. 7th Fleet was waiting for them.

The broad glade overgown with bright-green grass between the bank of the Basak River and the gates of the presidential residence, Chamkar Mon, was empty. This glade was created by pulling down all existing buildings, on Lon Nol's orders. The fact is that the "marshal president" was absolute in the extreme. The court magicians predicted to him that one day a white crocodile would emerge from the waters of the Basak and save his "republic." It was through this glade that the sacred reptile was to arrive at Chamkar Mon. But it did not come...

On the sunny morning of 17 April units of patriots, greeted by an exultant population, entered Phnom Penh and then other cities. The Cambodian people's 5-year armed struggle against U.S. imperialism and its proteges ended in victory.

Celebrating the 10th anniversary of this victory today, the Cambodian people recall U.S. imperialism's crimes in the ancient land of the Khmers. For several years U.S. aircraft subjected the defenseless country to very severe bombings. Suffice it to say that, whereas during the whole of World War II, 160,000 tons of bombs were dropped on Japan, the United States rained down on Cambodia a "shower" of bombs weighing 539,129 tons! Every day during daylight hours Phantom aircraft hunted out everything living on the rice fields and highways of Cambodia, and at night B-52 strategic bombers killed and maimed people, wiping whole rural communes from the face of the earth. Nor did the aggressors flinch from using chemical weapons. More than 70,000 hectares of rubber plantations suffered from the toxins dispersed from aircraft. Thousands of hectares of poisoned ground are still not suitable for use and the countless blood-red bomb craters will long be a reminder of the barbarity of the overseas "defenders of freedom." Pol Pot and his gang essentially continued the genocide started by U.S. imperialism.

The 10th anniversary of that victory coincided with the joy of the new victory which the defenders of People's Kampuchea gained in this year's dry season. They completely cleared the country's territory of the Pol Potist gangs and other reactionaries who had tried to entrench themselves there and firmly closed off the Cambodian-Thai border. Together with the PRK's success in restoration, social transformations, and consolidation of the internal political situation, this made it possible yet again, for a fourth time, to reduce the numbers of the Vietnamese volunteer contingent which has been in Cambodia since 1979. Recently the population of Cambodia's Stoeng Treng Province gave a warm farewell to 15,000 Vietnamese volunteers who returned to their motherland having fulfilled with honor their international duty by lending assistance to people's Cambodia in the defense of its freedom and independence.

By all accounts, the 1975 defeat taught U.S. ruling circles nothing. Among the forces which are continuing their hostile activity toward the peoples of Indochina, they play the most sinister role. Recently, U.S. propaganda has done its utmost to incite the U.S. partners in the ballyhoo around Cambodia to "more energetic" actions against the SRV, the PRK, and Laos. There are plans to increase dollar aid to the Khmer counter-revolutionary remnants concealed in Thailand. Their "leaders" are being received at a high level in Washington. In brief, U.S. imperialism itself has not abandoned interference in Cambodia's affairs and is dragging its partners and allies behind it. However, the events that have occurred in and around Cambodia in recent years show the utter hopelessness of a plot by imperialist, expansionist, and reactionary forces. There is even less chance today of their doing what they did not manage to do 10 years ago.

YEPISHEV, KULIKOV RECEIVE GDR ARMY OFFICIALS

PM240842 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Apr 85 Second Edition p 3

[Unattributed report: "GDR National People's Army Political Workers Visit"]

[Text] A delegation of political workers from the GDR National People's Army [NVA] headed by Lieutenant General H. Bruenner, deputy chief of the NVA Main Political Directorate, was in Moscow 17 through 19 April at the invitation of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate.

During the delegation's stay in the USSR, talks on questions of party political work were held in departments of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate. The GDR NVA political workers were familiarized with the measures being taken in the Soviet Armed Forces in the course of preparations for the 40th anniversary of the Soviet people's victory in the Great Patriotic War and the 30th anniversary of the Warsaw Pact.

The delegation was received by Army General A.A. Yepishev, chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate. Admiral A.I. Sorokin, first deputy chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate, Lieutenant General D.A. Volkogonov, deputy chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate, and other comrades took part in the talks.

The NVA political workers were received by Marshal of the Soviet Union V.G. Kulikov, USSR first deputy defense minister and commander in chief of the Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces.

SOVIET MILITARY DELEGATION ARRIVES IN BERLIN

LD240947 Moscow TASS in English 0915 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Berlin April 24 TASS -- A delegation of the Soviet Committee of War Veterans, led by Deputy Commander-in-Chief of the Ground Troops of the Armed Forces of the USSR Colonel-General Yuriy Naumenko, has come here at the invitation of the committee of the GDR anti-fascist resistance fighters.

The delegation will participate in festivities on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the Elbe meeting of units of the Soviet and American allied armies.

MOSCOW MEETING MARKS POLISH-SOVIET TREATY JUBILEE

PM230955 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Apr 85 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Fraternal Friendship and Cooperation]

[Text] The relations of friendship and close cooperation between the Soviet Union and Poland, based on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism, will continue to strengthen and develop in the interests of the two countries' peoples and the cause of peace and socialism. This was stressed at a celebration meeting of working people's representatives held 18 April in Moscow to mark the 40th anniversary of the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation, and Mutual Assistance between the USSR and Poland.

The presidium comprised G.V. Romanov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; N.I. Ryzhkov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; I.P. Kalin, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; G.I. Marchuk, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; leaders of a number of ministries and departments; and representatives of party, soviet, and public organizations.

Also present was a delegation of the main board of the Polish-Soviet Friendship Society led by H. Bednarski, secretary of the PZPR Central Committee, and S. Kociolek, Polish ambassador to the USSR.

The keynote speaker -- USSR Pilot-Cosmonaut G.T. Beregovoy, chairman of the central board of the Soviet-Polish Friendship Society, noted that the treaty jubilee coincides with a great holiday -- the 40th victory anniversary. The Soviet Army, in which Polish servicemen fought, brought freedom to the Polish people. Poland was reborn as an independent people's state, before which the path of socialist transformations was opened up.

Contemporary Soviet-Polish relations are characterized by all-round dynamic development. Political cooperation is strengthening and deepening. The volume of economic, scientific, scientific, and technical ties is constantly expanding both on a bilateral basis and within the CEMA framework.

In his speech, H. Bednarski stressed that the friendship between the two countries' peoples has stood the test of time. It grew stronger in the period of joint struggle against fascism and during the elimination of the grave consequences of the war, and enjoyed further development in the years of socialist building and in the struggle for peace and the people' security. The ideological and political unity of the two peoples has been tested in recent years, which have been difficult ones for Polish society.

The delegation head noted that Soviet economic help and support in the international arena serve as a reliable mainstay for the efforts of the Polish working people aimed at overcoming the existing difficulties and securing conditions for Poland for the successful implementation of socialist building.

The all-around development of Polish-Soviet relations, for which the friendship treaty forms a firm foundation, is bringing perceptible results in the economic and cultural development of the two countries and is strengthening the fraternal friendship and cooperation between the Polish and Soviet peoples.

Poland is actively cooperating with the USSR and the other fraternal countries in the struggle to achieve peace and to prevent the nuclear threat. The Polish people wholly support the peace-loving foreign policy of the Soviet Union.

The same day, S. Kociolek organized a reception to mark the anniversary.

The reception was attended by G.V. Romanov, N.I. Ryzhkov, I.P. Kalin, G.I. Marchuk, and other officials.

A delegation of the main board of the Polish-Soviet Friendship Society led by H. Bednarski was present.

Polish Message on Jubilee

PM230951 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Apr 85 Morning Edition p 1

[Text] To Comrade Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee;

To Comrade Nikolay Aleksandrovich Tikhonov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers.

Esteemed Comrades,

On behalf of the PZPR Central Committee, the Polish Council of State and Council of Ministers, the Communists, and all the Polish people, we send to you, the Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and Council of

Ministers, the Communists, and all the fraternal Soviet people, cordial congratulations and best wishes on the 40th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation, and Mutual Assistance between Poland and the Soviet Union.

The Polish-Soviet treaty concluded on 21 April 1945 was the result of an historic breakthrough in relations between our peoples. It reflects our common class and national interests. The Polish-Soviet alliance was shaped and strengthened in the joint struggle against German fascism.

The treaty was conceived on the combat path of Polish-Soviet brotherhood in arms leading from Lenino to Berlin. The alliance with the USSR ensured a worthy place for Poland in the postwar world and created the conditions for secure socialist development.

The enormous significance of the Polish-Soviet treaty showed itself as early as in the immediate postwar years, when the Soviet Union's internationalist assistance considerably helped the country to restore itself from the ruins and ashes and, in subsequent years, to achieve historic progress in all spheres of life.

All-round dynamic development and long-term prospects characterize Polish-Soviet relations today. This is vividly confirmed by the "Long-Term Program for Developing Economic, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation Between Poland and the USSR for the Period Through the Year 2000," signed in May 1984. The implementation of its provisions will make it possible to make more effective use of the production and scientific potential existing in our countries.

The Polish-Soviet alliance has been and will remain a reliable guarantee of Poland's existence within secure and just borders. Strengthening and deepening it further is the basis of Polish foreign policy.

Poland and the USSR, together with the other socialist community states, oppose the imperialist policy of confrontation, countering the course of the arms race with a realistic program directed toward removing the threat of nuclear catastrophe.

We fully support Soviet initiatives in the cause of preserving peace and disarmament, which express Polish society's fundamental interests.

On the basis of the great historic achievements of the past 40 years of Soviet-Polish friendship and cooperation, we will continue to strengthen and comprehensively develop them for the good of our fraternal peoples.

Please accept, Dear Comrades, our best wishes for further successes in building communism and in the struggle for peace and social progress throughout the world.

Wojciech Jaruzelski, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee and chairman of the Polish Council of Ministers;

Henryk Jablonski, chairman of the Polish Council of State

MOSCOW CITY LEADERS GREET BUDAPEST COUNTERPARTS

PM211411 Moscow MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 4 Apr 85 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Congratulatory Telegram"]

[Text] In connection with the 40th anniversary of Hungary's liberation from fascism, V.V. Grishin, first secretary of the Moscow CPSU Gorkom, and V.F. Promyslov, chairman of the Moscow Gorispolkom, sent Comrade Karoly Grosz, member of the MSZMP Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Budapest MSZMP City Committee, and Comrade Zoltan Szepvolgyi, chairman of the Budapest City Council Executive Committee, the following congratulatory telegram:

On the 40th anniversary of Hungary's liberation from fascism, we send to you, Communists and inhabitants of the Hungarian capital, hearty congratulations from the Moscow CPSU Gorkom, Moscow Gorispolkom, and Communists and working people of Moscow.

We note with great satisfaction that in the past 4 decades, the Hungarian people, as a result of selfless labor under the leadership of the party of Communists, have created a new socialist society in their land and have turned a once backward Hungary into an industrial country with a developed agriculture.

It is pleasing for us to realize that with each passing year, fraternal ties are steadily developing between the CPSU and MSZMP and the indestructible friendship between the Soviet and Hungarian people is strengthening. Fruitful cooperation between the USSR and Hungary and between their capitals is becoming ever wider. We highly value and will continue to do everything necessary to develop Soviet-Hungarian relations and friendly ties between Moscow and Budapest.

On this important jubilee, we wish you Communists and working people of the Hungarian capital great successes in the solution of the tasks of socialist building set by the 13th MSZMP Congress and in the struggle for peace and international security and for the triumph of the great ideas of Marxism-Leninism.

USSR PROTESTS UK'S EXPULSION OF SOVIET PERSONNEL

LD241225 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1155 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Moscow, 24 Apr (TASS) -- On 22 April, the ambassador of Great Britain in Moscow was summoned to the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs, where a protest was delivered to him in connection with the provocative action undertaken by the British authorities in relation to certain Soviet personnel in Great Britain, against whom absolutely groundless accusations were leveled of "impermissible activity," and who were told to leave the country in a very short time. This completely unwarranted action bears a clearly expressed political nature and contradicts the statements by the British side about their desire to facilitate the further development of relations with the Soviet Union. It was indicated to the ambassador that the responsibility for the possible consequences of this unfriendly action completely and fully lies with the British side.

The attention of the British side has already been brought on several occasions, the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs statement stresses, to the fact that certain members of British Embassy staff in Moscow are not observing the rules of conduct for foreign representatives in the USSR and are engaged in activity incompatible with their status. This activity has not yet been stopped. In this connection, it was suggested to certain British representatives that they should leave the Soviet Union, while others were given a warning regarding their violation of the rules of conduct for foreign representatives in the USSR.

The hope was expressed that the British authorities would in future refrain from unjustified actions against Soviet representatives in Great Britain and, by this very fact, not create obstacles to the normal development of relations between the two countries.

NATO HOLDS 'BOLD GAME' EXERCISE NEAR USSR BORDERS

LD232139 Moscow in English to Great Britain and Ireland 1900 GMT 23 Apr 85

[Text] NATO has launched large military maneuvers near Soviet borders. The exercise, codenamed "Bold Game," involves dozens of warships from Britain, West Germany, Denmark, and Norway. It is being held in much of the North, Norwegian, and Baltic Seas, and is to last until the 23d of next month.

FDP BUNDESTAG DEPUTY SUPPORTS U.S. SDI PLANS

LD231332 Moscow TASS in English 2133 GMT 22 Apr 85

[Text] Moscow April 27 TASS -- By TASS commentator Lev Aksenov.

Wolfgang Mischnick, leader of the grouping of Free Democratic [FDP] deputies in the West German Bundestag, said that research and development operations planned by the United States with a view to creating an anti-ballistic missile system with space-based elements "should be carried out within the framework of effective East-West treaties on arms limitation". In the opinion of the leader of free Democrats in the West German parliament, all issues outside the framework of the 1972 Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems (ABM Treaty) should be discussed between NATO partners themselves. Then these problems should be discussed between the North Atlantic bloc, on the one hand, and the Soviet Union on the other.

Thus, Wolfgang Mischnick made an attempt at sugar-coating the bitter pill, evidently so as to dampen the intensity of protests by opponents of "star wars". If one follows his logic, what he meant is actually a sanction of the USSR to the transfer of the arms race to the cosmos. However, it is impossible for research within the framework of the "Strategic Defence Initiative" to come in line with arms limitation treaties, as that " initiative" runs counter to Article 5 of the 1972 ABM Treaty. Article 5 of that document declares that "each party undertakes not to develop, test or deploy space-based ABM systems".

It should be noted that Mischnick made his proposal only a few hours after the government of Chancellor Helmut Kohl made a government statement supporting the "star wars" idea.

One gets the impression that leading members of the ruling Bonn coalition intend to provide "propaganda support" for the stance of the West German Government which is causing considerable damage to the interests of international peace.

Complicity of the FRG in the preparation of material facilities for "star wars" combined with the situation whereby U.S. missiles constitute a threat to the security of West Germany's neighbors in the East even now does nothing to enhance security including that of West Germany itself. This should not be overlooked by those who would like to cover up dangerous actions that are clearly aimed at attaining superiority over the Soviet Union with the "need of acting within the framework of treaties".

BELGIAN CP URGES REJECTION OF SDI PARTICIPATION

LD231544 Moscow TASS in English 0829 GMT 23 Apr 85

[Text] Brussels April 23 TASS -- The Political Bureau of the Communist Party of Belgium Central Committee has issued here today an appeal to the working people of the country, democratic and progressive forces urging them to demand from the government that it reject participation in the implementation of President Reagan's notorious "Strategic Defence Initiative".

The Political Bureau of the party Central Committee calls for pooling efforts to prevent the drawing of Belgium into participation in any form in the so-called American "research" in connection with the plans of preparations for "star wars".

COOPERATION PROTOCOL WITH TUNISIA DETAILED

LD232006 Moscow TASS in English 1914 GMT 23 Apr 85

[Text] Moscow April 23 TASS -- Prospects for the development of trade and economic contacts between the Soviet Union and Tunisia were discussed at the talks which ended here today. A protocol which was signed on the results of the talks outlines ways for expanding mutually beneficial economic cooperation. The document was signed for the Soviet side by Yevgeniy Osadchuk, deputy chairman of the State Committee of the USSR for External Economic Relations, and for the Tunisian side by Ahmed Ben Afra, secretary of state of the Tunisian Foreign Ministry for international cooperation.

In the course of the talks the sides signed an agreement on establishing a standing inter-governmental Soviet-Tunisian commission for economic, scientific and technical cooperation and trade. The commission will hold annual meetings, rotating them between Moscow and Tunis.

During his visit to Moscow the state secretary for international cooperation had meetings in a number of Soviet ministries and departments, including the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Foreign Trade and the State Committee for External Economic Relations.

According to the Soviet business circles, the talks were a success and laid a sound basis for the development and expansion of trade and economic contacts between the USSR and Tunisia and for broadening the horizons of that cooperation.

The Tunisian side stands for the development of trade and economic relations with the Soviet Union and believes that the newly established inter-governmental commission will help to make this cooperation comprehensive and dynamic, Ahmed Ben Afra said in a TASS interview.

PRAVDA REPORTS RECEPTION AT SYRIAN EMBASSY

PM230905 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Apr 85 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Embassy Reception"]

[Text] M.I. Habbal, Syrian charge d'affaires ad interim in the Soviet Union, gave a reception 17 April on the occasion of the national day.

The reception was attended by I.P. Kalin, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and other officials.

'DISTORTION' OF SOVIET STAND ON GULF WAR CLARIFIED

GF211318 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1600 GMT 20 Apr 85

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpt] Dear listeners: The world believes that neighboring countries should live in friendship and understanding and should strive to establish and preserve good-neighborliness and friendship. They should not cloud these relations with unnecessary mistrust and deliberate accusations.

Unfortunately in Iran, certain officials overlook such accepted and patent behavior. A certain Majlis deputy recently told ETTELA'AT that the recent visit by Kazempur-Ardabili, Iranian deputy foreign minister, to Moscow was aimed at conveying to the Soviet Government the Iranian people's concern over the Soviet Union's trampling of its good-neighborly relations with Iran by giving unlimited military aid to Iraq. Such a statement cannot be interpreted as anything but a deliberate distortion of the Soviet stand toward the Iran-Iraq war. It is a fact that at the very start of the war the Soviet Union called for its end and announced that it went against the interests of the peoples of both countries and was a meaningless war, amounting to fratricide that could bring all kinds of devastation and loss of life. This war may also retard the progress of the people of Iran and Iraq in their struggle against imperialism. It is well known that this Soviet policy, which was also endorsed at the 26th CPSU Congress, not only keeps the Soviet Union from backing either of the warring parties, but also places our country under an obligation to help Iran and Iraq end their war and killings and to help them resolve their dispute through peaceful and political means through talks. This policy was also explained to Tariq 'Aziz, the Iraqi foreign minister, during his latest visit to the Soviet Union.

During the recent visit to Moscow by Hoseyn Kazempur-Ardabili, Iran's deputy foreign minister, his attention was also drawn toward the need for a speedy end to the war and toward finding political ways to resolve the Iran-Iraq conflict. Under these circumstances, it is quite clear that the Soviet policy toward the Iraq-Iran war is to convince the warring parties of the need for the immediate cessation of hostilities so that the imperialist intervention, led by the United States, may be prevented. It may also be added that these powers are already threatening to commit armed aggression in the Persian Gulf under the excuse of defending their so-called vital interests. Caspar Weinberger, U.S. defense secretary, in a recent interview with the French paper FIGARO, has already spoken of the possibility of such an intervention.

The Soviet stand, which certain Iranian officials want to misinterpret, is not only compatible with good-neighborly relations, but also aims at preserving and expanding the good relations existing between the Soviet Union and Iran.

NICARAGUA'S ORTEGA TO VISIT USSR 'LATE IN APRIL'

LD240914 Moscow TASS in English 0902 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Moscow April 24 TASS -- In line with the mutual accord, a delegation of Nicaragua led by president of the Republic, member of the national leadership of the Sandinist National Liberation Front Daniel Ortega, is to come to the Soviet Union for a working visit late in April.

DELEGATION ATTENDS SOVIET FESTIVAL IN NICARAGUA

PM230919 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 18 Apr 85 First Edition p 3

[TASS report: "USSR Days in Nicaragua"]

[Text] Managua, 17 Apr -- The USSR Days in Nicaragua have been opened ceremonially here. A delegation from the Ukrainian SSR is taking part in them. Through the example of this republic, Nicaraguans will familiarize themselves with the heroic past and present of the Land of the Soviets and the lives, culture, and art of Soviet people.

The USSR Days in Nicaragua are being held on the eve of the glorious 40th anniversary of the victory over fascism. Socorro Galan, secretary general of the Nicaraguan Association for Friendship With the Socialist Countries, stated at the opening ceremony. The Soviet people, she stressed, made the decisive contribution to routing Hitler's Germany and the liberation of mankind from fascist slavery.

Amateur and professional artists held a large concert at the festival opening of the USSR Days in Nicaragua. During the events devoted to the USSR Days in Nicaragua, meetings will be held between the Soviet delegation and workers, peasants, and servicemen in the Sandinist People's Army. Exhibitions will be held in Managua and other cities.

SOVIET-CUBAN COOPERATION SESSION DETAILED

PM231023 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Apr 85 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Commission Session"]

[Text] Havana, 19 Apr -- The 15th session of the Soviet-Cuban intergovernmental commission on economic and scientific-technical cooperation was held here 16-18 April. The Soviet side was headed by I.V. Arkhipov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and the Cuban side by Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Cuban Council of Ministers.

The session examined questions of economic and scientific-technical cooperation, analyzed the results of cooperation in 1984, and discussed measures for fulfilling mutual commitments this year and several questions connected with the further expansion of cooperation in the next 5-year plan. Those taking part in the session also discussed progress in fulfilling commitments for reciprocal deliveries of goods.

There was an analysis of the results of the fulfillment of the agreement on economic and scientific-technical cooperation for 1981-1985.

In particular, those taking part in the session examined questions connected with the construction of an atomic power station in Huragua and a nickel plant in Punta Gorda, with the intensification of geological prospecting work for oil and gas on Cuban territory, and with the development of oil extraction.

The sides exchanged opinions of the preliminary results of the coordination of the plans of the USSR and Cuba for 1986-1990 and adopted a plan of action to complete this work this year.

The session examined questions connected with enhancing the effectiveness of maritime freight shipments and a wide range of questions connected with the development of bilateral scientific-technical cooperation.

A protocol was signed on the results of the session by the heads of the USSR and Cuban delegations.

A talk took place between I.V. Arkhipov, the head of the Soviet delegation, and F. Castro, first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee and president of the Cuban Councils of State and Ministers. During the talk, the sides exchanged opinions on trade and economic ties between the two countries.

After the end of the session F. Castro received the Soviet delegation.

CUBAN CHARGE HOSTS MEETING TO MARK BAY OF PIGS

PM221426 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 20 Apr 85 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "On the Anniversary"]

[Text] On 19 April Luis F. Vazquez, Cuban charge d'affaires in the Soviet Union, held a friendly meeting to mark the 24th anniversary of the Cuban people's victory at the Bay of Pigs.

The meeting was attended by generals, admirals, and officers of the Soviet Armed Forces and representatives of party, soviet, and social organizations.

CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE HOLDS 23 APR PLENUM

Information Report

PM240922 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Apr 85 First Edition p 1

[Unattributed report: "Information Report on CPSU Central Committee Plenum"]

[Text] A plenum of the CPSU Central Committee was held on 23 April 1985. A report on convening the regular 27th congress of the CPSU and tasks connected with its preparation and conduct was delivered at the plenum by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

Participating in discussion of this question were Comrades Shcherbitskiy, first secretary of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee; Grishin, first secretary of the Moscow CPSU Gorkom; Kunayev, first secretary of the Kazakhstan Communist Party Central Committee; Vorotnikov, chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers; Shevardnadze, first secretary of the Georgian Communist Party Central Committee; Zaykov, first secretary of the Leningrad CPSU Obkom; Klimchenko, instrument fitter of the Minskiy Traktornyy Zavod imeni Lenina Production Assciation; Vayno, first secretary of the Estonian Communist Party Central Committee; Filatov, first secretary of the Novosibirsk CPSU Obkom; Mesyats, USSR minister of agriculture; Vlasov, first secretary of the Rostov CPSU Obkom; Fedoseyev, vice president of the USSR Academy of Sciences; and Balmont, minister of the Machine Tool and Building Industry.

The plenum adopted a resolution on the report of Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, which is being published in the press.

The CPSU Central Committee plenum reviewed organizational questions. The plenum transferred Comrade Chebrikov from candidate member to member of the Politburo of the Central Committee and elected CPSU Central Committee Secretaries Comrades Ligachev and Ryzhkov, members of the Politburo of the Central Committee. The Central Committee plenum elected Comrade Sokolov, CPSU Central Committee member and USSR minister of defense as candidate member of the Politburo of the Central Committee. Nikonov, member of the CPSU Central Committee, was elected a secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

With this the CPSU Central Committee Plenum completed its work.

27th Congress Agenda Detailed

PM240945 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Apr 85 First Edition p 3

[Unattributed report: "Resolution of the CPSU Central Committee Plenum. On the Convening of the Next, the 27th CPSU Congress"]

[Text] The decision of the CPSU Central Committee plenum on convening the 27th CPSU Congress:

Having heard and discussed a report by Comrade Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, "On Convening the Next, the 27th CPSU Congress and the Tasks Associated With the Preparation and Holding of the Congress," the CPSU Central Committee resolves:

1. To convene the next, 27th, Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union on 25 February 1986.

2. To fix the following agenda of the congress:

(I) A report by the CPSU Central Committee on the tasks of the party; rapporteur: Comrade Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

(II) A report by the CPSU Central Auditing Commission; rapporteur: Comrade Sizov, chairman of the CPSU Central Auditing Commission.

(III) A new edition of the CPSU program.

(IV) Changes in the CPSU rules.

(V) Fundamental directions of the economic and social development of the USSR for the period between 1986 and 1990 and the prospects until the year 2000; rapporteur: Comrade Tikhonov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers.

(VI) Elections to central party organs.

3. To establish the norm of representation at the 27th CPSU Congress: one delegate representing 3,670 party members.

4. Delegates to the 27th CPSU Congress are to be elected, in accordance with party rules, by closed secret ballot at oblast and kray party conferences and congresses of union republic communist parties. Election of delegates to the 27th CPSU Congress from the Communist Parties of Ukraine, Belorussia, Uzbekistan, and Kazakhstan is to be conducted at oblast party conferences. Communists forming part of party organizations in the Soviet Army, the Navy, or the Internal or Border Troops are to elect delegates to the 27th CPSU Congress, along with corresponding territorial party organizations, at oblast or kray party conferences or at union republic party congresses. Communists forming part of party organizations in units of the Soviet Army or Navy who are abroad are to elect delegates to the 27th CPSU Congress at party conferences at corresponding troops units.

5. To hold an election/report-back campaign preceding the 27th CPSU Congress with the following timetable:

Meetings in primary party organizations: September-November this year;

Rayon, town, and okrug party conferences: November-December this year;

Oblast and kray party conferences: December 1985-January 1986;

Congresses of union republic communist parties: January-early February 1986.

6. At election/report-back meetings and conferences and congresses of union republic communist parties, to make a profound and comprehensive examination of the work done to fulfill the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and subsequent plenums of the CPSU Central Committee; and to discuss in detail questions of party management of economic and cultural building, and the state of organization-party and ideological work.

In the course of the election/report-back campaign it is essential to concentrate the efforts of party organizations and labor collectives on the successful completion of 1985 and the 11th 5-Year Plan as a whole, on timely and good-quality preparations for fulfillment of the plans of the 12th 5-Year Plan, on the resolution of key problems of economic and social development, and on the intensification of production by all means possible on the basis of widespread introduction of the achievements of scientific and technical progress, and of improved planning and management and the strengthening of good organization, discipline and order in all links of the national economy: It is also essential to ensure that Communists take a vanguard role in launching precongress socialist competition, and that businesslike support is given to valuable initiatives aimed at bringing forth internal reserves and making better use of them.

Party meetings, conferences, and congresses must be held in a businesslike and principled atmosphere and with a self-critical approach in evaluating the work done by party organizations and their leading organs. It is important that reports and elections should facilitate a further consolidation of Leninist norms in party life, the development of intra-party democracy, criticism from above and from below, a growth in activeness and initiatives among Communists, and an enhancement of their responsibility for the affairs of their organizations and the party as a whole.

The CPSU Central Committee expresses the firm confidence that preparation for the 27th CPSU Congress will take place on a high organizational and ideological-political level, under the sign of close cohesion of party ranks and the inviolable unity of the party and the people.

Gorbachev Delivers Report

PM241357 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Apr 85 Fitst Edition pp 1, 2

["Report on the convening and tasks of the 27th CPSU Congress delivered by General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee M.S. Gorbachev at a plenary meeting of the CPSU Central Committee on 23 April]

[Text] Comrades: Our party, the Soviet people, the peoples of the socialist countries, and all of progressive mankind festively marked the 115th anniversary of the birth of Vladimir Ilich Lenin yesterday. The whole of life and the entire course of history convincingly confirms the great correctness of the Leninist doctrine. It has been and remains for us a guidance for action, a source of inspiration, and a reliable compass in determining the strategy and tactics of forward movement.

Lenin taught Communists to base themselves in everything on the interests of the working people, to scrutinize life deeply, to evaluate social phenomena realistically and from class positions, and to be engaged in a constant, creative search of the best ways of implementing the ideals of communism. Today we are checking our deeds and plans against Lenin and his great ideas, and we are living and working in accordance with Lenin's behests.

Our plenum is to examine questions of great political importance: on the convocation of the next, 27th CPSU Congress, and the tasks connected with its preparation and holding. The Politburo moves the proposal, in accordance with the CPSU rules, to convene the next party congress on 25 February 1986.

It is proposed to place the following issues on the agenda of the congress:

1. Report by the CPSU Central Committee on the party's tasks;

2. Report by the CPSU Central Auditing Commission;

3. On the new edition of the CPSU program;

4. On changes in the CPSU rules;

5. On the basic guidelines for the economic and social development of the USSR for the 1986-1990 period and for the period up to the year 2000;

6. Elections to the party's central organs.

It is planned to hear and discuss appropriate reports on the reports of the CPSU Central Committee and Central Auditing Commission, and also on the question of the basic guidelines for economic and social development. As for the new edition of the program and the changes in the CPSU rules, their essence can be discovered in the report by the Central Committee, and individual reports can be dispensed with.

It is proposed to elect one delegate to the congress for each 3,670 Communists, that is, a total of 5,000 people. This will make it possible to represent well all our party's organizations and to reflect its social and national composition.

In the 10 months remaining before the congress, a comprehensive analysis and realistic assessment must be made of the results of all that has been done since the 26th congress; the prospects for further development and domestic and foreign policy tasks must be determined. Very important documents must be prepared, above all such fundamental ones as a new edition of the CPSU program and the main directions of development during the next 5-year plan and to the end of this century, and they must be examined at the CPSU Central Committee plenum and then be widely discussed in the party and the country. A great deal of attention will have to be devoted to carrying out reports and elections in party organizations at a high level, and to completing the 11th 5-Year Plan in a worthy manner.

In short, it will be a period of strenuous and multifaceted work -- political, economic, organizational, and ideological-theoretical. Today we again confirm the continuity of the strategic policy elaborated by the 26th party congress and subsequent Central Committee plenums. In the Leninist understanding, continuity means unwavering forward movements, revealing and solving new problems, and eliminating everything that hinders development. We must rigorously follow this Leninist tradition, enriching and developing our party policy and our overall course toward perfecting the society of developed socialism.

The forthcoming 27th CPSU Congress will indisputably be a milestone in the country's development. Its significance is due to the paramount importance of the issues submitted for discussion, the nature of the present period, and the newness and scale of the tasks facing society. This adds a special tone to all of the party's precongress work and demands profound understanding of the existing situation, bold decisions, and vigorous activity.

The country has achieved great successes in all fields of social life. On the basis of the advantages of a new structure, it has ascended to the summits of economic and social progress in a short historical period.

The Soviet Union now has a powerful and comprehensively developed economy, qualified cadres of workers, specialists, and scientists; and in many areas of production, scientific and technological development, we firmly hold the leading position in the world.

Profound changes have taken place in social life. For the first time in history, working people have become masters of the country, creators of their own destiny. The guaranteed right to work and be rewarded for it, society's concern for a person from birth to extreme old age, broad access to spiritual culture, respect for the dignity and the rights of the individual, and the steady expansion of workers' participation in government. All these are permanent values, inalienable features of the socialist way of life. They contain a most important source of political stability, social optimism, and confidence in the future.

The Soviet people are rightly proud of all this. However, life and its dynamism dictate the necessity of further changes and transformations, the achievement of a new qualitative condition of society, and moreover in the broadest sense of the word. This is above all the scientific and technical renewal of production and the achievement of the highest world level of labor productivity; it is the improvement of social relations and first of all economic relations; it is profound changes in the sphere of work and of material and spiritual conditions in people's lives; it is the activation of the entire system of political and social institutions and the strengthening of socialist democracy and the self-government of the people.

The development of Soviet society will to a decisive degree be determined by qualitative shifts in the economy, by transferring it into the path of intensive growth, by the comprehensive raising of efficiency. It is precisely from these positions that conditions in the national economy must be appraised and tasks must be determined for the future.

It is known that alongside successes achieved in the economic development of the country, unfavorable tendencies have become stronger, and many difficulties have arisen in recent years. Thanks to the active work of the party, beginning in 1983 the work of many links in the national economy has managed to be tightened up, and the situation has managed to be improved somewhat. However, the difficulties have been far from overcome. We have yet to apply great efforts in order to create a reliable basis for fast forward movement.

What is the cause of the difficulties? The answer to this question has, as you understand, principled significance for the party. The influence of natural and a number of other outside factors has of course had an effect, but it seems that the main reason is that changes in the objective conditions of the development of production and the necessity for speeding up its intensification and for changes in methods of management were not appraised in the required way at the right time, and, what is particularly important, there was no persistence displayed in the elaboration and implementation of major measures in the economic sphere.

Comrades, we must take cognizance of the situation as it has come about, deeply and thoroughly, and come to the most serious conclusions.

The historic fate of the country and the positions of socialism in the modern world depend to a large extent on how we manage things from now on. By making extensive use of the achievements of the scientific-technical revolution and by making the forms of socialist economic management accord with the contemporary conditions and demands, we should achieve a considerable speeding up of social and economic progress. There is simply no other way.

This is what determines the success of the cause of socialism and communism today and the great responsibility that is laid upon the party, its Central Committee, and all party organizations in the present extremely important segment of history. We Communists are obliged to do everything in order to be equal to this responsibility and to be equal to the great tasks dictated by time.

Now the main issue now is how and by what means the country will be able to achieve an acceleration of economic development. In reviewing this issue in the Politburo we unanimously came to the conclusion that there are real opportunities to achieve this. The tasks for accelerating the growth rate and by a considerable degree are quite achievable if the intensification of the economy and the speeding up of the scientific and technical progress are placed in the center of all of our work, if management and planning are restructured, if the structural and investment policy is restructured, if the level of organization and discipline is raised everywhere and the style of activity is radically improved. I think that the plenum participants will support such a conclusion.

A relatively rapid return can be obtained if one puts into use organizational-economic and social reserves and if, in the first instance, one puts the human factor into action and ensures that everyone in their place works conscientiously and wholeheartedly. How great the opportunities here are was related at the recent conference with workers, economic leaders, specialists, and scientists in the CPSU Central Committee. The participants in that conference noted that when the need arises by the collectives' virtue alone and their leaders' pulling themselves together and beginning to work better, they manage in a short time to raise labor productivity to an extent that is at times comparable with the tasks planned for a whole 5-year period. Such reserves exist at every enterprise and building site, in every collective farm. No one knows them better than the labor collectives themselves, their party organizations, and economic leaders. Consequently, much depends on their attitude toward their work, their energy, and their ability to get people interested in the maximum use of all possibilities for increasing production and raising its effeciency.
An important side of the question of responsibility and discipline is the timely and well-executed delivery of raw material, fuel, assembly components, movement of rail cars, and so on. There are people who have something to answer for on this account.

A certain advance in strengthening contract discipline in the national economy has been noted. It must be consolidated, steadily raising exactingness in fulfillment of contractual obligations, without any allowances for objective conditions.

Another reserve that should be resolutely tackled is the fight against extravagance and losses. The leaders of many ministries and enterprises are trying to "wrest" a bit more capital investment, machine tools and machines, raw material, and fuel from the state. At the same time, they are frequently irresponsible in their attitude to their rational use. The existing equipment sometimes stands idle or is not used to the fullest extent.

What is happening in capital construction? Many projects take an inordinately long time to build. As a result, quite a lot of material wealth is immobilized, the growth of capacity is delayed, and the country does not receive the necessary production on time. The plan for commissioning of basic production assets is not being fulfilled satisfactorily. At depots of enterprises and new construction sites quite a lot of uninstalled equipment has accumulated. There are considerable direct losses of material wealth as a result of negligence in transportation, storage, and dispensing of cement, coal, mineral fertilizers, timber, agricultural produce, and foodstuffs. Such wastefulness must be ended without delay.

Obviously, we cannot get by on slogans alone. There have been more than enough of them. Extra demands, including legislative ones, must be made on specific persons for the safekeeping and correct use of all material wealth. The necessary order must be introduced at every enterprise and construction site, on each collective and state farm, in each organization. Without this there can be no question of any rational management or growth of economic efficiency.

As a main strategic lever for intensification of the national economy and better use of accumulated potential, the party brings the task of cardinal acceleration of scientific-technical progress to the forefront. In June the CPSU Central Committee plans to hold a special conference at which this question will be discussed. Today I would like to voice certain fundamental considerations.

In the majority of industries scientific and technical progress is flagging; it is developing basically in an evolutionary manner, primarily by improving existing technology and the partial modernization of machinery and equipment. Of course, these measures provide a certain return, but it is too small. What we need is revolutionary change, a transfer to fundamentally new technological systems, to the most up-to-date machinery to provide the very greatest efficiency. Essentially it is a matter of reequipping all sectors of the national economy on the basis of contemporary achievements in science and technology. The acuteness of the question is also dictated by the fact that recently the country's production apparatus has aged considerably. The coefficient of renewing fixed assets has been lowered. In the 12th 5-Year Plan the prime concern must be a substantial rise in the coefficient of replacing equipment. Machine building has the decisive word here. It is necessary to give priority to developing it, and to speed up by 1 and 1/2 to 2 times the rates of the sector's growth in the 12th 5-Year Plan. The main task is a speedy transition to producing new generations of machines and equipment that are capable of ensuring the introduction of progressive technology, of raising labor productivity many times, of lowering material input and raising the output-capital ratio. Prime attention must be paid to improving machine-tool construction, to accelerating the development of computer hardware, to instrument building, to electric equipment and electronics as catalysts for scientific and technical progress. In light of these tasks, reducing the prestige of engineering must not be considered normal. Not everything is in order here, and we must raise the role and prestige of masters, engineers, designers, and technology experts and raise the material and moral incentives for their labor. Accelerating scientific and technical progress, and increasing production efficiency are inseparable from a decisive improvement in product quality. The failure to meet contemporary technical-economic, aesthetic, and all consumer requirements, and the existence of sometimes even obviously substandard goods, is in essense a plunder of material resources and a waste of our people's labor. This is why an all-around rise in product quality must be at the center of economic policy. Quality, and quality again -- that is our slogan today. Having solved the problem of quality, it is also possible to solve the problem of quantity. This is the only reliable way of ever more fully satisfying the country's requirements for modern machinery, the population's growing demand for various goods, and overcoming shortfalls in the national economy.

Whichever question we consider and from whichever aspect we approach the economy, in the final analysis everything rests upon the need to seriously improve the administration of the economic machinery as a whole. I became convinced of this once again during the recent meeting at the CPSU Central Committee with workers and economic managers, and also while visiting the ZIL plant. Participants in meetings spoke with great concern of how it pained them that work conditions have been made more complicated because of imperfections in the administration system, trivial regulations, and excessive paper-pushing. There is one way out of the situation: Immediate and energetic measures are needed on the whole complex of administration problems.

The concept of restructuring the economic machinery is clearer to us now. In further developing centralized principles in solving strategic tasks, we must move forward more boldly along the path of extending the rights of enterprises and their independence; introduce financial autonomy, and, on this basis, raise the accountability and motivation of labor collectives in the final results of their work. The results of a large-scale experiment that is being carried out on this direction are not at all bad, but they cannot provide complete satisfaction. A line has been reached where we must cross over from the experiment to creating an integrated system of economic management and administration. This means that we should also begin practically restructuring the work of the upper echelons in economic management; and we should aim them first and foremost at solving prospective social, economic, and scientific-technological tasks in the search for the most effective forms of combining science and production.

Life is presenting greater demands on planning, which is the core of administration. It must become an active lever for intensifying production, for implementing progressive economic decisions, and it must ensure balanced and dynamic economic growth. At the same time, the plans of associations and enterprises must be relieved of their abundance of indicators, wider use must be made of economic norms that open up space for initiative and enterprise. It is time to begin perfecting the organizational structures of administration, to eliminate superfluous links, simplify the apparatus, and raise its efficiency. It is also important to do this because certain links in the administration have turned into an obstacle and have begun to act as a brake upon movement. We must sharply restrict the number of instructions, provisions, and methods which, at times, interpret the decisions of the party and the government capriciously, and paralyze the independence of enterprises.

It is extremely important to make all primary work units and all individual workers aware of the principles of financial autonomy. This will make it possible to combine the measures aimed at improving the system of management from above with the development of collective forms of labor organization and labor incentives from below, to raise the activeness of the working people.

It is just as important to raise the responsibility of republican and local organs in the management of economic and sociocultural building and in satisfying the requirements of the working people. Naturally, to do this, it is necessary to continue to expand the rights of local organs, to step up their initiative and interest in production development, utilizing resources, and in putting right the whole range of services for the population.

Consequently, full responsibility should be borne locally for solving all the questions that relate to their area of jurisdiction and the feeling of being dependent must be got rid of faster.

Comrades, the CPSU sees the highest sense of accelerating the country's socioeconomic development in raising the people's prosperity steadily, step by step, in improving all aspects of life of the Soviet people, in creating favorable conditions for a harmonious development of the individual.

In this connection, it is necessary to consistently pursue a line aimed at consolidating social justice in the distribution of material and spiritual wealth, at strengthening the influence that social factors have on the development of the economy and on raising its efficiency. This line meets with the complete approval and support of the Soviet people. The task now is to work out concrete and effective measures to purge the distribution mechanism of wage-leveling, unearned incomes, all that runs counter to the economic norms and moral ideals of our society, to ensure that the material situation of each worker and each collective depends directly on the results of their work.

The party will continue to wage a most resolute struggle on all negative phenomena that are alien to the socialist way of life and our communist morality.

Currently, the social program the party will put forward at its 27th congress is being carefully worked out. There are, however, tasks that cannot be put to one side, tasks that require particular attention. This relates, above all, to implementing the food program. Positive changes have taken place in the development of agriculture over the past few years; supplies of foodstuffs to the population have improved somewhat. However, this is still a long way from what is needed. Kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and processing enterprises have the potential to considerably increase the production of foodstuffs. It is necessary to manage this potential carefully and to make use of it more efficiently.

One sometimes comes across attempts by local bodies to place all the responsibility of food supplies, and especially provision of feed, on the central bodies. Such a practice is unacceptable. The task is to more fully utilize all reserves in increasing food production both in kolkhozes and sovkhozes and on private plots of citizens and enterprises. In general, comrades, we have to intensify work on fulfilling the food program and to supplement it with serious measures to develop processing industries in the agro-industrial complex and bring their enterprises closer to kolkhozes and sovkhozes. Such instructions were given by the Politburo to the USSR Gosplan and relevant ministries, and they should approach the fulfillment of them in an entirely responsible and thorough manner.

Managing the agro-industrial complex needs further perfection too. Far from everything has been done here. Under the influence of departmental interests, rayon and oblast associations are often unable to properly solve in coordination the issues of the integral development of agriculture and industries connected with it. If we are firmly convinced that there should be one master on the land and that the agro-industrial associations bear full responsibility for fulfilling the food program, a fact I think nobody doubts, it is necessary to carry out measures that will make it possible to manage, plan, and finance the agro-industrial complex as a single entity at all levels. That is what we agreed upon at the May 1982 CPSU Central Committee Plenum. A lot is to be done to more fully satisfy demand for industrial goods and services, to supply the market with the needed products, to make sure the market is satisfied, to improve the quality and range of good produced, to make the price system more flexible, and to balance the standards of reatailing.

The integral program of developing consumer goods production and the services sphere is directed toward solving these tasks. It envisages a substantial increases in the production of high-quality clothes and shoes, modern cultural and domestic goods and household appliances, and developing many types of services. This program will be adopted in the near future. At the same time, as you know, Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers resolutions have already been adopted on a number of its directions. We are talking about increasing the production of shoes, developing local industry, services in repairing and building housing, improving telephone communication services to the populace.

It is important that the Soviet people sense a change for the better in the near future.

We cannot fail to take account of the changes [sdvigi] taking place in the structure of effective demand. The working people want to use their income to a greater extent for the improvement of their living, cultural, and domestic conditions, for leisure, tourism, and other purposes. Such demands and requirements must be more fully satisfied. This is beneficial to the state as well.

However, in this instance the possibilities are being poorly realized. Let us take, for example, such a specific question as the development of orchard and allotment associations. This is a highly beneficial cause. There is broad interest shown in it. However, so far it has not received the proper development. The requirement for allotments and huts [domik], for building materials and tools, are far from being fully met. After discussing this question in great detail, the Politburo ordered that appropriate measures be taken, so as to go as far as possible towards meeting the demands of the people and removing unwarranted obstacles.

Areas such as health care and the education of the people are taking on ever greater significance in the life of society and of each individual, and therefore in the social policy of the party as well. We have achieved much in the development of these. We have ensured equal access by all citizens to these vitally important benefits. However, here, too, new problems are today arising.

A substantial improvement, from the standpoint of today's demands, is needed in the material-technical base of healthcare, the quality of medical care, and the supply of medicines to the populace. The need for serious measures in this field was recently the subject of discussion in the Politburo. Provision must be made for them in the plans for the 12th 5-Year Plan.

We have begun school reform, whose significance for the future of the country is difficult to overestimate; and it is now necessary that there be not a formalist but a meaningful approach to the tasks set, and a fundamental improvement in the quality of training and education of the rising generations, and preparation of them for socially useful work. There are also numerous other questions that should be thoroughly considered, and for which paths to a solution should be found. These are: improving the material situation of labor veterans, especially of those who went into well-deserved retirement long ago; the living conditions of young families; and maternity and child-care. Of course, it is important to continue building up efforts in resolving such social problems as the housing problem, in order, in the long term, to guarantee every family a separate apartment or a well-appointed house.

In everything concerning man, his work, material well-being, and leisure, we should be as attentive as possible. This is a key policy question for us.

Now, on current affairs associated with the fulfillment of the year's plan, we have begun it not completely well. Growth in industrial production for the first quarter was a total of 2 percent. Oil, metal, power engineering, and transport in particular fell back. Growth rates in labor productivity fell. The situation is not much better in costs, profits, and other indices. The situation is being rectified somewhat in April, but efforts must be redoubled in order to make up the loss in the remaining 8 months. Let us speak plainly: It is not an easy task, but the matter is like this -- the 1985 plan must be fulfilled, and this must be done without any kind of corrections. It is at this that socialist competition and all organizing and political work must be aimed. There are responsible tasks facing the workers in the countryside. Work must be carried out so as to delight the country with high results. At the same time it still remains to provide a qualitative elaboration of the plan for the coming year and the 12th 5-Year Plan as a whole. For this it would be expedient to pass on control figures and norms to the ministries, departments, associations, and enterprises in the near future. This will give an opportunity to more fully take account of the proposals of workers' collectives for mobilizing reserves and, as of the beginning of next year, and most importantly, to begin the new 12th 5-Year Plan in an organized fashion and with an energetic launch.

Comrades, solving complex and large-scale tasks of the current stage, which touch on all facets of our life, is only possible by relying on the lively creativity of the people, on its reason, talent, and labor.

We must raise millions of working people to implement them, constantly develop the initiative and energy of the working class, peasantry, and intelligentsia, bring into motion those inexhaustible possibilities at the disposal of socialist society, and more actively support all useful initiatives.

Lenin's party, the party of Communists, has always marched and still marches in the vanguard of the people. Today it is called on to head the movement of all the people for speeding up the social and economic development of the country. For this it is required that the struggle for the achievement of immediate and long-term aims to taken up by each party organization and each Communist.

Preparation for the congress, the forthcoming reports, and the elections must comprehensively facilitate an upsurge in the activity and responsibility of Communists, the strengthening of the fighting ability of party organizations, the consolidation of their links with the masses, and in the final analysis, the raising of the leading role of the party.

The report-back and election campaign begins at the primary organizations, which are the party's chief potential. It is here that party policy is embodied in real deeds. It is here that our successes and shortcomings, our opportunities and reserves are especially clearly visible. This is why it is so important that meetings of Communists should review the results of what has been done in a Leninist manner, without false idealization and empty debate, and gather together positive experience bit by bit, expose shortcomings fearlessly, and pinpoint opportunities and specific ways of raising production, raising economic efficiency, and improving matters. It is the duty of party committees to display the maximum concern to ensure that meetings of primary organizations take place in a businesslike way, in an atmosphere of criticism and self-criticism and Bolshevik frankness, to ensure that awkward questions in the life of collectives and ways of eliminating everything that holds up the work are discussed.

It is essential to ensure that every party member can make full use of his constitutional right to make proposals and criticisms, to ensure that not a single critical utterance is ignored.

The question of reinforcing order and discipline is especially topical today. This is a pressing contemporary requirement, which the Soviet people interpret in a broad way. In it they include order in production and the services area, in public life and away from work, in each labor unit, and in every town and village. We will make every effort to ensure that order of this kind is strengthened in the country. Life has shown what unanimous approval the people have given to measures to impose order, and what weighty results these measures are producing. However, it has to be bluntly stated that of late the attention given to this most important question has lessened somewhat. In this respect it is, above all, leaders of collectives, bearing personal responsibility for discipline, who must be brought more rigorously to account. One not infrequently encounters instances where managers of enterprises forgive indiscipline in workers, hoping that subordinates will in their turn forgive their own blunders. We will not tolerate such an attitude of mutual forgiveness.

In order to strengthen discipline and order, another indispensable condition is essential: Each individual must deal with his own responsibility and conscientiously carry out his own direct commitments. Substantial results cannot be achieved in any sphere of activities while the party worker takes the place of the economic manager, while an engineer does the work of a messenger, while a scientist works at a vegetable collection site and a textile worker at a livestock farm. Unfortunately, that is often the case today.

It goes without saying that such a situation has not come about overnight. In some cases it is caused by well-known difficulties. It cannot be rectified in a single day, but it must be rectified.

Only then will we really be able to get rid of irresponsibility and lack of discipline. Higher demands should be made on the tone, efficiency, and exactingness of the forthcoming rayon, town, oblast, and kray party conferences and the union republic communist party congresses. There must be no place at them, as sometimes happens, for eulogizing and compliments, or attempts to conceal behind general words the essence of the matter, to lay the blame for shortcomings on objective circumstances or departmental misunderstandings. We intend that the leading cadres, Central Committee members, and heads of ministries and departments will take direct part not just in the party conferences but also in the meetings of primary organizations and do everything to ensure that the precongress collective meetings for discussion among Communists should pass off at the highest constructive and critical level. The main slogans of the moment, which must be made the leitmotif of our precongress meetings, and the whole of the preparation for the 27th party congress are creative labor, unity of word and deed, initiative and responsibility, and exactingness towards oneself and one's comrades. The example here must be set by Communists. It is necessary to intensify the demands made on every party member regarding his attitude toward public duty, the fulfillment of the party decisions, and the honest and pure aspect of a party member. A Communist is assessed according to his actions and deeds; there are no other criteria, nor can there be. During the reports and elections the leading party organs will have to be formed and replenished with fresh forces and the cadre questions that have come to a head will have to be resolved. The recently held plenums of party committees convincingly showed what mature cadres the party has at its disposal. At the same time they confirmed once again the need most strictly to observe the Leninist principles of selection, deployment, and education of cadres. Where these principles are violated, where the promotion of workers is allowed on the basis of personal devotion, servility, or protectionism, there inevitably sets in a fading of criticism and self-criticism and a weakening of the links with the masses, and as a result there are failures in work. The Politburo considers it fundamentally important to continue implementing the course of ensuring stability in party leadership and the correct combination of experienced and young workers. However, this cannot be accompanied by any kind of stagnation in the advancement of cadres. In their letters to the Central Committee, Communists draw attention to the fact that certain leaders, occupying the post for a long time, frequently cease to see the new and get used to shortcomings. There is something to think about here: We must search for ways for the more active movement of our leading cadres; we must promote women and promising young workers to responsible posts with greater boldness.

One more important conclusion prompted by the plenums of party committees that have been held: Not a single party organization, not a single worker would be left outside the system of control. At meetings of the Politburo or the CPSU Central Committee Secretariat over the past 2 years, reports have been presented on one question or another from first secretaries of Central Committees of Communist Parties of many union republics and of party kray and oblast committees; reports have been heard from leaders of a number of primary party organizations, raykom, gorkoms, and many ministries and departments. Such work must, naturally, continue to be conducted in the future, and must be actively developed in republics, krays, and oblasts. This is in line with the rules of our intraparty life.

As we have now touched on control, there is, then, another consideration I would like to voice; and that is this: Checking is necessary, control is essential, and every check must bring practical benefit and serve the interests of the matter at hand.

However, there can be scant justification for repeated checks on one and the same, sometimes trivial, matter, or for the numerous commissions set up out of formalistic considerations and that take people away from their work and generate an atmosphere of nervousness.

Report-back assemblies, conferences, and congresses provide an opportunity for a comprehensive assessment of the activities of elected party bodies and a detailed look into the content and method of their work. Emphasis here must be placed primarily on an analysis of how they deal with key questions concerning the life and labor of people and production collectives, and the development of the economy and of culture, how they conduct organizational work among the masses. It is essential to persistently continue the line of daily providing objective assistance to lower party organizations, of getting things done in a more businesslike and expeditious way, reducing the flow of paperwork, and overcoming bureaucratic styles of work and the fondness for numerous meetings and conferences. It needs to be said forthrightly that far from everything has been done in countering these phenomena.

There is no shortage of examples of this. Not so long ago the CPSU Central Committee heard reports from the Kalinin and Tselinograd Obkoms on matters concerning development of the agro-industrial complex. Serious deficiencies came to light in the party management of the economy as concerns cadres and educative work, and in the activities of the obkom buros and secretaries. The main thing that gave rise to the deficiencies here was an uncritical attitude to what had been done, an inclination to exaggerate results achieved, and a reluctance to draw attention to negative phenomena. Appropriate measures had to be taken.

Certain heads of ministries and departments still stick to the old approaches in leadership and they lack self-criticism. This is hindering matters. Life itself places on the agenda the need for a decisive improvement in work and for bringing it into line with the demands of the present stage of the development of society.

It is now no longer sufficient merely to be able to take executive action, although at times there is not enough of this either; the significance of such businesslike qualities as competence, a sense of what is new, initiative, boldness, a readiness to take on responsibility for oneself, the ability to set a task and to see it through to the end, and the ability not to lose sight of the political meaning of management is growing more and more. As also, I would say, is the desire to learn how to work.

An important task of the report-back and election campaign is to further intensify party leadership of the soviets, trade unions, the Komsomol, and other links in our political system, and all work involved in developing Soviet democracy. We should always remember Lenin's idea that socialist democracy should never be interpreted in an abstract way; it has been and remains a tool for developing the economy, for the growth of man's activeness, and the communist education of the masses. It is precisely in this key that the party, in deepening the democratic nature of the Soviet system, has worked and will continue to work.

Preparations for the party's 27th congress and discussion by the working people on the draft congress documents will undoubtedly stir up much activity among the Soviet people. Party committees are to take great care of ensuring publicity, of how all channels of communication with the masses are to operate, of how much attention is devoted to public opinion, critical remarks, and the statements and letters of citizens.

The CPSU Central Committee sees them as being of great assistance in its work and a clear indication of the Soviet people's interest in the affairs of their state.

The tasks of the party's political-educational and ideological work have been discussed more than once in the Central Committee. Attention to this sector is understandable, and progress has indeed been made, but I believe that by no means all has been done to ensure that ideological work is connected with life in the closest possible way. Formalism and mere exhortations continue to get in the way; damage is often done by idle talk and an inability to speak to people in the language of truth, and at times it happens that a person hears one thing, and in reality sees something different. This is a serious question, and not just an educational one, but a political one, too.

Ideological-political education in all its forms must be fully connected with the main task of our time -- the acceleration of the country's socioeconomic development.

This cannot be obtained without comprehensively taking account of the whole totality of the conditions of internal life and the specifics of the international situation. You know that an All-Union Scientific-Practical Conference in December last year was devoted to precisely these questions; and it discussed the course of fulfilling the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee June 1983 plenum. One could recall once again today, and this should not appear paradoxical to anyone, that in propaganda and ideological work as a whole, there should also be fewer words and more deeds.

I should speak in particular about the work of the mass information media -- from works and rayon media to the central media. The press, television, and radio are effective means of organizing and educating the masses, of shaping public opinion. However, life demands something more. The information media are called upon to analyze events and phenomena profoundly, to raise serious problems and propose ways of resolving them; to convince through their substance, expeditiousness, and informativeness. The wise words of the party, addressed to man, awaken thoughts and develop the initiative of people while fostering intolerance toward shortcomings. The effectiveness of the press, television, and radio rises significantly when the party committees give them active aid and support. It is necessary only that this aid and support should always be timely and weighty. Of course, any attempts to suppress or ignore well-founded criticism should receive a principled party evaluation.

The role of literature and art is a large one in enriching the spiritual life of society with new values, with the ideological and moral elevation of the Soviet man. The artistic intelligentsia -- writers, poets, composers, artists, workers in the cinema and the theater -- enjoy a high level of prestige and recognition. However, from this also springs their enormous responsibility to society. All the best things that have been created by Soviet literature and art have always been inseparable from the main causes and concerns of the party and the people. There is no doubt either that the fresh tasks being resolved today will find a worthy response in artistic creation -- in asserting the truth of socialist life.

Comrades, we are on the threshold of the 40th anniversary of the great victory over fascism. Recalling the inconceivably gigantic price paid for the victory by the Soviet people and the other peoples of the anti-Hitler coalition, again and again returning to the tragedy that befell mankind, the Communist Party and the Soviet Government see the main meaning of their foreign policy activity in not permitting a repetition of anything similar, and, all the more so, in not permitting a nuclear catastrophe. The Soviet Union and our party have been and will remain unswervingly true to the sacred memory of the immortal deed of the peoples who overcame fascism. The Soviet Union declares again and again that it will firmly follow the Leninist course of peace and peaceful coexistence that is determined by our social system, our morality, and world view.

We stand for regular, correct -- if you like -- civilized relations between states, based on genuine respect for the norms of international law. However, it must be absolutely clear that only if imperialism renounces attempts to resolve the historic argument between two social systems by military means can international relations be successfully directed into a channel of normal cooperation.

The cohesive community of socialist states, its economic and defense might, and its unity of action in the international arena, are an insuperable force in the struggle for the peaceful future of mankind. The achievement of military-strategic balance with the states of the aggressive NATO bloc is an exceptionally important historic gain for the fraternal countries of socialism. This parity must be cherished by all possible means, for the sake of peace. It reliably deters the aggressive appetites of imperialism. Nor shall we in future spare any effort to ensure that the USSR Armed Forces have all that is required to reliably defend our fatherland and its allies, so that nobody will be able to catch us unawares.

Mankind today has at its disposal a vast potential for peace, multifaceted experience, and sufficient historical and social perspective to understand where a policy of aggression can lead. This understanding unites peace-loving forces ever more closely; it activates antiwar and antinuclear movements, and raises more and more progressive, democratic detachments for the struggle against the threat of war.

Nobody should be surprised that Washington's egoistic militaristic course is arousing ever more criticism and resistance in many countries. A huge contribution to the common cause of the struggle for peace is being made by communist and workers' parties, trade, unions, and other mass public organizations.

There is no single people that desires war. This is a source of huge reserves and potential for carrying out the policy of peace and progress. Everything should be done in order that forces of militarism and aggression do not gain the upper hand in international relations. We are convinced: It is possible to prevent global war. However, as experience shows, the struggle for preserving peace and securing comprehensive security is not an easy task, it demands more and more effort. Through the imperialists' fault the international situation continues to be alarming and dangerous. Mankind has found itself with a choice: either the further fanning of tension and confrontation, or a constructive search for the mutually acceptable accords that would halt the process of material preparation for a nuclear conflict. The responsibility for the existing situation lies, first of all, with the ruling circles of the United States, and this should be stated in all clearness. They continue to be the initiators [zastrelshchiki] of the arms race, and they sabotage disarmament, a fact of which the world community is well aware. On their initiative, more and more types of mass annihilation weapons are created. Now they are trying to extend the arms race to space. Hundreds of U.S. military bases scattered all over the world also destabilize the situation in the world. The United States openely claims the "right" to interfere everywhere; it ignores, and often directly tramples underfoot, the interests of other countries and peoples, traditions of international relations, and existing treaties and agreements. It constantly creates hotbeds of conflicts and military danger, heating up the situation in various parts of the world. Today the United States is threatening the heroic people of Nicaragua, with military reprisal trying to deny them freedom and sovereignty, as was the case on Grenada. Solidarity with forces of progress and democracy, with the countries and peoples fighting for their freedom and independence and against the onslaught of reaction, is a matter of principle for us. Here our line is as clear as it always was.

One does not need special political vision in order to see how imperialism has intensified its subversive work and coordinated its activities against socialist states in the course of the last few years. This applies to all areas: political, economic, ideological, and military.

In the documents of the fraternal parties it has been repeatedly stressed that imperialism is trying to secure social revenge on the widest front, both as regards the socialist community and against countries liberated from colonial oppression, national-liberation movements, and the working people of capitalist countries.

There is a broadening and intensification of the economic expansion of the United States. The manipulation of bank rates, the predatory role of the transnational corporations, political limitations on trade, and all sorts of boycotts and sanctions are creating an atmosphere of tension and distrust in international economic relations, disorganizing the world economy and trade, and undermining its legal foundations. There is a strengthening of the exploitation of the ex-colonial countries [stran osvobozhdayushchegosya mira] and a blocking of their economic decolonialization process. Concentrating in its hands a growing amount of the financical and material resources of other countries, the United States directly or indirectly puts them into the service of its gigantic military programs.

In these conditions ever-growing interest is aroused in the world by the idea of elaborating and implementing measures to normalize international economic relations and to ensure economic security for states. The complexity of the international situation, the sharp degree of tension, obliges us to continue to award the questions of foreign policy priority significance. A task of ever increasing importance is the comprehensive, improvement and enriching of cooperation and the development of all-embracing links with the fraternal countries of socialism, the promotion of their close interaction in political, economic, ideological, defense, and other areas, concern for the organic combination of national and international interests of all participants in the great community. On the agenda for the joint work of the fraternal countries is the putting into practice of the decision of the economic summit conference of the CEMA member-countries that took place in June of last year. This is now urgently demanded by the common interests of the community and the requirements of each state's social and economic development and the particular features of the international situation.

The exchange of opinions that we had in the middle of March with the leaders of the parties and states of the Warsaw Pact members makes it possible to confidently affirm that we are united in the opinion that the Warsaw Pact will continue to have, as long as the NATO bloc exists, an important role to play in the defense of the positions of socialism in Europe and the world and to serve as a reliable instrument for preventing nuclear war and strengthening international security.

Purposefully and persistently the Soviet Union will strengthen mutual links and develop cooperation with other socialist countries including the People's Republic of China.

Our stance on this question is known. It remains in force. We are advocating the further expanison of many-sided cooperation with the countries of Asia, Africa, and Latin America.

The CPSU and the Soviet state invariably support the right of all peoples, in accordance with their own choice, to determine their own socioeconomic present and to build their future without any outside interference whatsoever. Attempting to refuse the peoples this sovereign right is a hopeless and doomed matter.

We invariably advocate the development of normal, equal relations with capitalist countries. Vexing problems and conflict situation should be solved by political means -- such is our firm conviction. The Politburo bases itself on the fact that the interstate documents of the period of detente, including the Helsinki Final Act, have not lost their significance.

They are an example of how international relations can be built if one is guided by principles of equality and identical security, by the realities that have arisen in the world, if one does not strive for any advantage, but looks for mutually acceptable solutions and accords. It would appear that in connection with the 10th anniversary of the European Security and Cooperation Conference it would be useful if, on behalf of the states that signed the Final Act, the will were expressed once again in Helsinki to overcome the dangerous tension, to develop peaceful cooperation and constructive principles in international life.

The Soviet Union advocates fruitful and all-around economic and scientific-technical cooperation. built on principles of mutual advantage and excluding any discrimination. It is ready to further expand and strengthen trade relations, to develop new forms of economic ties, based on mutual interests in the joint development of scientific-technical and technological innovations, in planning and building enterprises, and in the use of raw material resources. In posing the question in this way it is necessary to look attentively into the state of our foreign economic ties, to take a somewhat more profound look at them, taking into account the long-term view. Despite international tension there are favorable opportunities here. The approach to mutually advantageous economic ties and foreign trade should be broad, large-scale and directed toward the future. We are in favor of extensive, mutually advantageous cooperation at many levels with the states of Western Europe, Japan, and other capitalist countries.

Our readiness to improve relations with the United States is also known, for mutual benefit and without attempts to encroach upon the legitimate rights and interests of each other. There is no sort of fatal inevitability of confrontation between the two countries. If one is to interpret both the positive and negative experience accumulated by the history of Soviet-U.S. relations -- both remote and recent history — it should be said that the most rational thing is to look for ways to smooth out relations, to build a bridge of cooperation, but to build it from both sides.

However, the already concluded first stage of the Geneva negotiations provides grounds for saying that Washington is not holding a course directed at accord with the Soviet Union. This is evident if only from the fact that it is altogether refusing to discuss the question of preventing the arms race from spreading into speace at the same time as discussing the question of limiting and reducing nuclear weapons. In this way it is violating the accord reached in January on the interlinking of the three directions: preventing the arms race in space; reducing nuclear strategic weapons; and reducing medium-range nuclear weapons in Europe. A question arises: how to explain such a position? It is explained by the fact that certain U.S. circles still want to achieve a dominant position in the world, primarily in the military sphere. We have more than once drawn the attention of the U.S. side to the fact that these arrogant plans have no future. The Soviet Union and its friends and allies, indeed all other states that take a stance for peace and peaceful cooperation, do not recognize the right of any state or group of states to supremacy and or to impose their will on other countries and peoples.

The Soviet Union, for its part, has never posed itself such tasks, and will not. We would like to express the hope that the present U.S. attitude will be amended. This would open the possibility for achieving mutually acceptable accords. For our part, such readiness is evident. Evidence of this is the USSR proposal that both sides should introduce for the entire period of the talks a moratorium on creating space weaponry, and a freeze on strategic nuclear arsenals. Continuing this line, the Soviet Union unilaterally announced a moratorium on the deployment of medium-range missiles and on the buildup of other countermeasues in Europe. All over the world this decision was assessed as important and constructive, and likely to promote the success of the talks.

I should like to remind you that this is not the only step of its kind. Since 1982 the unilateral commitment of the Soviet Union not to be the first to use nuclear weapons has been in operation, and since 1983 the unilateral moratorium on being first to put anti-satellite weapons into space has been in effect. Not to one of these initiatives has the U.S. Government responded with a single gesture of goodwill. On the contrary, it has been doing everything to present the actions of the USSR, which are directed at a reduction of the war dangers and at reaching understandings, in a false light, and to provoke mistrust in them. In a word, everything is being done just to avoid positive steps in response.

One cannot help being surprised, too, at the haste with which the U.S. Administration replies with its standard and customary "no" to our proposals, which is obvious evidence of the United States' unwillingness to steer the matter toward reasonable results. I will say one thing: An arms race and talks on disarmament cannot be combined. That is clear, if one is not to fall into hypocrisy and aim to deceive public opinion. The Soviet Union will not facilitate such a course, and this should be known by all those who are now engaged in a political game and not in serious policy. We would not want a repetition of the sorry experience of the previous talks. For its part, the Soviet Union will persistently work in Geneva for concrete, mutually acceptable agreements that would make it possible not only to end the arms race but also advance the cause of disarmament. Now as never before, political will is needed for the sake of peace on earth, for the sake of a better tomorrow.

Such, comrades, are our tasks, the basic directions of domestic and foreign policy. Undoubtedly they will be the subject of thorough debate at the present plenum, which has to define the character of the precongress activity of the whole party and of each of its organizations. We must conduct the work of the plenum in such a way that it may be summed up in Lenin's words: "We know our tasks much more clearly, concretely, and graphically now than we did yesterday. We are not afraid to point openly to our mistakes so as to correct them. We will now devote all the forces of the party to its better organization, to raising the quality and content of its work, to creating closer ties with the masses, and to working out ever more correct and precise tactics and strategies of the working class."

The party and the Soviet people expect comprehensively thought-out and responsible decisions from us, and it can be said with certainty that they will be supported by Communists and all workers, supported by their social motivation, their activity, and their labor. (The report was listened to with great attention and was repeatedly interrupted by prolonged applause)

BIOGRAPHIES OF PROMOTION RECIPIENTS PUBLISHED

Viktor Chebrikov

PM240953 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Apr 85 First Edition p 3

[Unattributed biography "Viktor Mikhaylovich Chebrikov"]

[Text] Comrade V.M. Chebrikov was born in 1923. He is Russian, a member of the CPSU since 1944, and a graduate of the Dniepropetrovsk Institute of Metallurgy.

From the first days of the Great Patriotic War he was on the front: He served as a private and commanded a platoon, company, and battalion at the southwestern, Stalingrad, Voronezh, Stepnoy, the 1st and 4th Ukrainian fronts.

Following graduation from the institute after the war, he worked as an engineer at the Dniepropetrovsk Metallurgical Plant named after Petrovskiy.

Since 1951 he was in party work as first secretary of a district party committee, a CPSU Central Committee party organizer at a plant, second and first secretary of the city party committee, secretary and second secretary of the Dnepropetrovsk Regional Party Committee.

Since 1967 Viktor Chebrikov was head of the Personnel Department, later deputy and first deputy chairman of the State Security Committee of the U.S.S.R. In December 1982 he was appointed chairman of the State Security Committee of the U.S.S.R., general of the Army.

Since 1971 Viktor Chebrikov has been an alternate member, and since 1981 a member of the CPSU Central Committee. The December (1983) CPSU Central Committee Plenum elected Viktor Chebrikov an alternate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo.

Viktor Chebrikov has been elected deputy to the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. (9-11th convocations) and also to the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation. He is a laureate of the State Prize of the U.S.S.R. and Hero of Socialist Labor.

Yegor Ligachev

PM240951 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Apr First Edition p 3

[Unattributed biography: "Yegor Kuzmich Ligachev"]

[Text] Comrade Ye. K. Ligachev was born in 1920. He is a Russian, a member of the CPSU since 1944, and a graduate of the Moscow Aviation Institute named after S. Ordzhonikidze and the Higher Party School at the CPSU Central Committee.

Upon graduation from the institute he held engineering posts at an aircraft building factory in Novosibirsk and was elected first secretary of the Novosibirsk Regional Komsomol Committee.

Since 1949 he has been in party and soviet work. He was chief of a department at the city party committee, deputy chairman of the regional executive committee, first secretary of a district party committee, and a department head and secretary of the Novosibirsk Regional Party Committee.

From 1961-1965 he was deputy head of the Propaganda and Agitation Department and deputy head of the Party Organs Department for the Russian Federation at the CPSU Central Committee. In 1965 he became first secretary of the Tomsk Regional Party Committee.

In April 1983 he was appointed head of the Department of Organizational Party Work at the CPSU Central Committee and the December 1983 Central Committee Plenum elected him a secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

Yegor Ligachev was elected a candidate member of the Central Committee in 1966 and a full member in 1976. He was deputy to the 7th-11th Supreme Soviets of the USSR and to the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation.

Nikolay Ryzhkov

PM240955 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Apr 85 First Edition p 3

[Unattributed biography: "Nikolay Ivanovich Ryzhkov"]

[Text] Comrade N.I. Ryzhkov was born in 1929. He is a Russian, a member of the CPSU since 1956, and a graduate of the Urals Polytechnical Institute named after S.N. Kirov.

He began his working career in 1950 as a shift foreman at the Urals Heavy Engineering Plant named after S. Ordzhonikidze, and subsequently worked as a production line chief, a workshop superintendent, chief welding specialist, deputy director and, beginning with 1965, chief engineer. In 1970 Nikolay Ryzhkov was appointed the plant's director and subsequently director general of the Uralmash Production Association.

In 1975 he was appointed first deputy minister of heavy and transport engineering and in 1979 first deputy chairman of the USSR State Planning Committee.

The CPSU Central Committee November 1982 Plenum elected Nikolay Ryzhkov a secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. He is also head of the CPSU Central Committee Economic Department.

Nikolay Ryzhkov has been a CPSU Central Committee member since 1981. He has been elected deputy to the 9th, 10th, and 11th Supreme Soviets of the USSR and also to the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation. He has been awarded two USSR State Prizes.

Sergey Sokolov

LD231645 Moscow TASS in English 1611 GMT 23 Apr 85

[Text] Moscow April 23 TASS -- The plenary meeting of the CPSU Central Committee today elected member of the Central Committee and Defense Minister of the USSR Sergey Sokolov an alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee.

Sergey Sokolov was born in 1911. He is a Russian and has been a member of the CPSU from 1937. He has higher education: He has graduated from the Military Academy of Armored and Mechanized Forces and the Military Academy of the General Staff. Sergey Sokolov is marshal of the Soviet Union. He holds the title of Hero of the Soviet Union.

He has served in the Soviet Army since 1932. He was commander of a platoon, a company and a battalion. During World War II he held command and staff posts on the Western and Karelian fronts.

From 1964 he was first deputy commander and from 1965 commander of the Leningrad Military District.

In 1967 he was appointed first deputy minister of defense of the USSR. From 1984 he has been defense minister of the USSR.

Sergey Sokolov is a member of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR.

Viktor Nikonov

LD231642 Moscow TASS in English 1613 GMT 23 Apr 85

[Text] Moscow April 23 TASS -- The plenary meeting of the CPSU Central Committee today elected member of the Central Committee Viktor Nikonov a secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

Viktor Nikonov was born in 1929. He is a Russian and has been a member of the CPSU from 1954.

After graduating from the Azov-Black Sea Agricultural Institute, he has worked in agriculture.

From 1958 he was in party work: He was a deputy head and head of the Agricultural Department of the Krasnoyarsk Regional Party Committee and an instructor of a department of the CPSU Central Committee. From 1961 he was second secretary of the Tatar Regional Committee of the CPSU and from 1967 first secretary of the Mari Regional Committee of the CPSU.

In 1979 he was appointed chairman of the "Soyuzselkhozkhimiya" amalgmation -- deputy minister of agriculture of the USSR.

From 1983 he was agriculture minister of the Russian Federation. Viktor Nikonov is a member of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR.

RETIRING CENTRAL COMMITTEE CANDIDATE THANKED

PM231349 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Apr 85 First Edition p 2

[Unattributed report: "Thanks for Conscientious Labor"]

[Text] In connection with his retirement, the CPSU Central Committee Politburo has thanked Comrade Vasiliy Semenovich Frolov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee, for his conscientious labor for the benefit of the party and people.

OFFICIAL STRESSES PROBLEM-SOLVING ABILITY

OW142120 [Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 0430 GMT on 7 April in its 55-minute "Decisions Are Made on the Spot" program dealing with the work of party and soviet organizations in Sverdlovsk Oblast in handling workers' letters, proposals, and complaints shows CPSU Central Committee member and First Secretary of Sverdlovsk Obkom B.N. Yeltsin saying the following:

"There is no reason to hide the fact that we have some managers who immediately send stereotyped letters and cables to central authorities the moment they hit a snag saying, help, I am in trouble, when it is possible to solve the problem on the spot, with the aid of oblast organizations, neighboring enterprises, and so forth. We consider that considerably more attention must be paid to production and economics, which in turn influence the education of people in the working collective, because the collective is the center for education.

"It is precisely there where man gets his education, and especially there where the managers are real educators. Of course most of our managers understand that their role is that of managers and educators. In broadcasts you will see examples of this at the Verkh-Isetskiy Metallurgical Plant, Severskiy Pipe Manufacturing Plant, the Novotrubnyy Plant in Pervouralsk, Talitskiy Rayon, and so forth where considerable attention is paid to social problems, particularly on the job. This creates a good moral and psychological climate within the collectives, and that helps solve major production problems.

"Of course not all the managers are like that. Unfortunately we also have managers who display less responsibility, less interest, and less activity, and some are completely irresponsible. This became very clear in the first quarter. It was exceptionally difficult, especially in the months of January and February. It was difficult for the national economy and for our oblast. Many collectives simply rallied, and managers showed what they were worth in this most difficult circumstance.

We were helped by the party Central Committee, and collectives of railwaymen and power-engineering workers did not give up but maintained their normal pace. That is very good. We think that despite the fact that February brought Sverdlovsk Oblast to its knees, a very rare instance, measures have been taken in industry to ensure fulfillment of the quarterly plan. At a session of the oblast party bureau we summed up the results of work done in the first 2 months of the year and came to the conclusion that it is necessary to get rid of managers who failed to show their worth. We have decided to relieve Comrade Charnov from his post of director of Krasnouralskiy Combine, particularly because in the past very serious complaints had been made against him.

"Generally people have always been in favor of discipline and order, and when such a line is firmly held by the party Central Committee it impresses everybody, and all vote for strengthening discipline and for increasing the cadres' requirements and responsibilities."

After showing views in Pervouralsk City, production of pipe at the Novotrubnyy Plant in Pervouralsk, and a large shop where two pipe-rolling machines have been reconstructed, the video shows pupils being trained in a special shop at the Novotrubnyy Plant cutting to shorts of Ustyugova, teacher at Vocational-Technical School No 28 saying: "I am glad that the children have responded well to the edcuational reform and are already taking part in socially useful productive labor, but I am upset that our school's material base is very weak. In order to train children for work it is necessary to have large quantities of tools and modern equipment; the children have now grown, and we are still using machine tools produced in 1969. We lack many tools and our training enterprise, namely, the pipe fitting manufacturing plant in Pervouralsk, is giving us very little support. We are short of material. We are now not in our training enterprise's shop."

No. 6 Vocational-Technical School Director Ivkin says: "It is necessary to solve the problem of training personnel. We do not have sufficient training personnel here at present, and enterprises must render considerable help."

The video shows Yeltsin speaking about public catering and saying that this is not a simple problem, as there is a shortage of personnel. After showing officials being interviewed about public catering and personnel at work in public-catering enterprises in Pervouralsk, video cuts to shorts of Yeltsin speaking about the tasks connected with the food program and saying: "The three constituent parts of the program are developing the public sector for increasing yields, obtaining more products than we get now; all-around expansion of enterprises' auxiliary farms, of which we have already established 400 in the oblast producing 12,000 tons of meat; and expanding individual citizens' auxiliary farms. These three factors can improve the supply of food products for the population. With the great aid rendered by the party Central Committee and government we have managed to fulfill the plan for the first 4 years of the 5-year plan period and somewhat improve supply to the population. We say only somewhat; we say that it is only the first stage and that by 1990 we shall have to do a lot in order to correct the state of affairs in this field."

Yeltsin then speaks about the problem of milk supply and says that "only 5 percent of the work force is located in the villages, while 4.6 million people have to be provided with milk and milk products. This is one of our most serious problems."

Speaking about the problem of cadres, Yeltsin says that "every 5-year plan period we lost 150,000 people, who left the villages for the cities. It could not continue. In another couple of 5-year plan periods we would have no people left in the villages." Then he speaks about measures to correct the situation, and about the production of consumer goods in the oblast.

GRISHIN ADDRESSES MOSCOW UNIVERSITY AKTIV

PM221545 Moscow MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 5 Apr 85 pp 1, 3

[Unattributed report: "The Tasks of Higher Education"]

[Excerpt] A meeting of the aktiv of the Moscow M.V. Lomonosov State University Party Organization was held yesterday. It was devoted to the results of the CPSU Central Committee March (1985) Plenum and the tasks of the university's party organization.

A report was delivered by V.V. Grishin, first secretary of Moscow CPSU Gorkom.

The meeting was addressed by B.S. Ishkhanov, secretary of the physics faculty party committee; L.N. Korolev, corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences and chief of a department at the computer mathematics and cybernetics faculty; I.M. Volkov, party organizer of a department at the economics faculty; A. Golikova, a student in the faculty of journalism; S.I. Nikishov, chief of the department of scientific communism of the natural sciences faculties; and Academician A.A. Logunov, rector of Moscow State University.

Taking part in the aktiv meeting were A.M. Roganov, secretary of Moscow CPSU Gorkom; G.S. Strizhov, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Science and Educational Institutions Department; V.P. Yelyutin, USSR minister of higher and secondary specialized education; V.M. Petrov, chief of a sector of the CPSU Central Committee Science and Educational Institutions Department; senior officials of Moscow CPSU Gorkom, ministries, and departments; and M.V. Nikoruk, instructor at the CPSU Central Committee Science and Educational Institutions Department.

The participants in the meeting adopted a letter of greetings to the CPSU Central Committee with great enthusiasm.

In his report, V.V. Grishin spoke of the work of the CPSU Central Committee Extraordinary March Plenum.

The recent meeting of the city party aktiv and party meetings, where the results of the plenum and the ensuing tasks have been discussed, have shown convincingly that Moscow's Communists and working people express deep satisfaction with the unanimous election of Comrade M.S. Gorbachev to the lofty, responsible post of general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

Comrade M.S. Gorbachev's speeches at the CPSU Central Committee plenum and at the funeral meeting confirmed the stability and continuity of the party's course, which was elaborated by the 26th congress and subsequent plenums of the CPSU Central Committee.

The speaker dwelt in detail on the provisions and conclusions arising from the plenum materials and stressed that the party's strategic line is directed toward accelerating the country's socioeconomic development. This unchanging line embraces both the transformation of the material and technical base of production, the improvement of the system of social relations, and the development of man himself and the qualitative improvement of the material conditions of his life and work and his spiritual makeup.

The capital's Communists and working people, V.V. Grishin said, wholeheartedly approve the decisions of the extraordinary plenum of the CPSU Central Committee. The city party organization, the Communists, and all the capital's working people see it as their duty to augment Moscow's contribution to the resolution of the tasks set by the plenum.

In all sectors of the city's economy, the fulfillment of targets for the first 4 years of the 5-year plan was on the whole ensured. Having analyzed the results of work in industry, construction, and scientific organizations in that period, the speaker noted the great contribution which the Communists and the entire collective of Moscow M.V. Lomonosov State University have made to the successful fulfillment of the 5-year plan targets and the development of the city's economy and stressed that the Moscow State University party organization, which unites 8,000 Communists, is doing much to ensure the constant improvement of all aspects of the university collective's activity.

The achievements of the Moscow State University collective have been valued on their true merits by the party and the government. Moscow State University was awarded the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Council of Ministers, AUCCTU, and Komsomol Central Committee Challenge Red Banner for its results in the All-Union Socialist Competition for 1984.

V.V. Grishin congratulated the Communists and the entire collective of Moscow State University on that high appraisal, expressed gratitude for their work, and wished them renewed success in their work.

The report named the most important tasks that the scientists and the entire collective of Moscow University, including its present students, along with workers and specialists employed directly in the production sphere, are to make an ever increasing contribution to solving. This requires the Moscow State University Party Organization to take a new look at what has been achieved, analyze the shortcomings in its work, and reveal and commission reserves which will make it possible to substantially enhance the efficiency of the use of the great teaching and scientific potential concentrated in the university. Such reserves do exist.

Proceeding from the decisions of the 26th party congress and subsequent CPSU Central Committee plenums and from party and government resolutions on higher education, the party organization and the rectorate must strive to further improve the quality of the training and the ideological and political education of specialists and to strengthen the Moscow State University's link with production and the practice of socialist building.

It is constantly necessary to enhance demands on the content of teaching plans and ensure that they are updated in a timely fashion, taking account of the changes occurring in life, so that the link between instruction and production is strengthened. It is necessary to improve teaching on the basis of the latest pedagogical methods and to involve more widely in lecturing and teaching national economic specialists who are capable of ensuring the combination of a high scientific standard in the teaching process with the need to bring it closer to the needs of modern production, modern science, and culture and to the development prospects of society. It is important to carry out the full computerization of the entire teaching process within a short time and to train students, as well as teachers, in the knowledge of computer equipment, in control systems involving the use of computers, and in programming skills.

It is necessary to enhance the responsibility of student youth for the quality of study work and boost their involvement in public life, actively instill in them the skills of independent work, and mold in them a new kind of economic thinking aimed at initiative and socialist enterprise, at achieving the best end results in production, increasing labor productivity, and saving raw material and energy resources. It is necessary to further improve the structure of specialists and broaden the training of cadres who ensure the accelerated development of national economic sectors determining scientific and technical progress.

The rectorate and the party organization must strive to improve the results of university science, coordinate it more closely with the needs of the national economy, and direct scientific research toward resolving key economic problems. Special attention must be devoted to questions of developing electronics and creating new computer equipment and progressive new materials and to their use in production.

The report sets economists, philosophers, sociologists, jurists, and other social sciences specialists specific tasks.

There will be a communist subbotnik 20 April in honor of the 115th anniversary of V.I. Lenin's birth. Great preparatory work is being done in enterprise and establishment labor collectives to ensure people's organized, highly productive labor on that day using saved collective materials and energy resources. The university's students, professors, and teachers must also prepare well for the subbotnik and carry it out with high efficiency and with great benefit to the city.

The implementation of the school reform demands the special attention of the university's party organization and entire collective. It is necessary, the report stated, to try to ensure that the university's graduates work in Moscow schools and form the scientific-method foundation that will determine a standard of teaching and education in the teachers' collective in accordance with modern demands. The Moscow State University collective is called upon to activate patronal work in Moscow's schools and vocational and technical schools and give them more substantial assistance in resolving the tasks advanced in the reform, primarily in training teachers and students in the skills of working with computer equipment.

The Moscow State University collective has always been renowned for its ability to respond in a businesslike way to the demands of society and the tasks set by the party. V.V. Grishin expressed confidence that the Moscow State University collective, under the leadership of the party organization, will continue to cope successfully with the tasks facing it and augment its contribution to the labor achievements of Muscovites.

The report described the work results of Moscow's working people in the first quarter of this year and pointed out that patriotic movements aimed at fulfilling annual and 5-year targets ahead of schedule are spreading in labor collectives.

The socialist pledges of Muscovites are an expression of their high awareness, labor and political activeness, and desire to worthily greet the 27th CPSU Congress. In accordance with the city pledges, the part of the 5-year plan related to the volume of industrial output must be completed by 7 November.

With a view to fulfilling the pledges and overfulfilling the state targets, the city party organization is mobilizing labor collectives to resolve tasks such as ensuring preferential growth in labor productivity, lowering the prime cost of production and work carried out, enhancing its quality, and improving the use of fixed production capital. The political, organizational, and ideological activity of all primary party organizations is directed toward this.

The report examined in detail questions of improving the organizational and political activity of all components of the city party organization and strengthening the vanguard role of party members. The capital's Communists must set an example in fulfilling their civic duty and an example of conscientious labor for the good of society and assert the Leninist style in work everywhere.

The enhancement of professional efficiency, the ability to put decisions into practice efficiently, and the broad development of people's creative and labor initiative must become the chief directions in the activity of all party organizations, including the Moscow University Party Organization.

The speaker pointed out that the university party committee and the faculty party organizations must constantly improve work on the selection, placement, and training of cadres.

It remains the university party organization's important task to step up the education of all Communists in the spirit of responsibility for the assigned task, to further strengthen party discipline, and to struggle for the purity of the party's ranks.

It is necessary to ensure that every CPSU member is profoundly aware of his responsibility for the successful implementation of the tasks facing the collective in which he works and that he sets an example of high discipline and organization, party-mindedness, and observance of legality. It is necessary to wage a resolute struggle against all manifestations of ostentation and irresponsibility and against everything that runs counter to the socialist norms of life. It is necessary to give all possible support and encouragement to those who display their honest and conscientious attitude to the fulfillment of their obligations and their social duty not in words, but in deeds and practical results.

The report devoted considerable space to the tasks of further improving ideological and political education work. It is necessary to proceed from the premise that the effectiveness of educational work is manifested, above all, in how working people participate in resolving tasks of socioeconomic development, what contribution they make to their collective's affairs, to fulfilling party decisions and state plans, and to enhancing labor productivity and the quality of all work, and how they struggle against shortcomings. The enhancement of people's labor and social activeness, the strengthening of discipline, and the fostering of patriotism and internationalism constitute the most important tasks of every party organization.

The speaker dwelt on questions of international life and the need to expose resolutely and promptly the ideological subversion of our class enemies and the intrigues of imperialist propaganda.

Soviet people, V.V. Grishin went on to say, inseparably link all their achievements with the party's activity. The Moscow City Party Organization, which incorporates the party organization of Moscow's Lomonosov State University, is the CPSU's forward detachment and the reliable mainstay of its Central Committee. These days, Moscow's Communists are closing their ranks still more tightly and mobilizing working people to fulfill the economic and social development plans.

In conclusion, V.V. Grishin expressed confidence that Moscow State University's collective and party organization will augment their efforts in the struggle to implement the tasks facing the university and will greet the 27th CPSU Congress with new successes.

GOVERNMENT AGRO-INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION MEETS

PM231340 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Apr 85 Morning Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Agro-Industrial Complex Commission Session"]

[Text] On 22 April a routine session of the USSR Council of Ministers Presidium Commission for Agro-Industrial Complex Questions heard a report by A.V. Aleksankin, USSR first deputy minister of land reclamation and water resources and chief of the Main Administration for Land Reclamation in the Non-Chernozem Zone, on steps that are being taken to improve the use and safekeeping of land reclamation equipment and to prevent it from being prematurely written off.

It was noted that along with a certain improvement in the situation relating to the use and safekeeping of the aforesaid equipment at enterprises and organizations of the Main Administration for Land Reclamation in the Non-Chernozem Zone serious shortcomings persist. As checks have shown, large quantities of this equipment are prematurely written off or cannibalized, serious deviations from the state standard exist in the storage of this equipment -- motors and working parts are not mothballed, units are not sealed, subassemblies and components that require special storage conditions are not removed. All this testifies to insufficient exactingness on the part of the USSR Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources and the aforementioned main administration to ensure the safekeeping of machinery and equipment. The instructions issued by the ministry on this question are not backed up by organizational work at the local level.

The commission took note of the statement of N.F. Vasilyev, USSR minister of land reclamation and water resources, to the effect that the instances of unsatisfactory storage and premature writing off of land reclamation equipment have been comprehensively examined by the USSR Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources Collegium. Strict disciplinary action has been taken against and pay stoppages imposed on the culprits.

The commission instructed the USSR Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources and the Main Administration for Land Reclamation in the Non-Chernozem Zone to restore all cannibalized machinery to working order as soon as possible and to ensure that the procedure and conditions set by the USSR Government for writing off land reclamation machinery, motor transport vehicles, equipment, and other goods from the books are strictly observed.

A.V. Aleksankin, USSR first deputy minister of land reclamation and water resources and chief of the Main Administration for Land Reclamation in the Non-Chernozem Zone, has been notified of his personal responsibility for the elimination of existing shortcomings in the safekeeping and writing off of land reclamation machinery at enterprises and organizations under his jurisdiction.

The attention of the USSR Ministry of Agriculture was drawn to the poor supervision of the technical state of agricultural machinery and the observance of the rules for the safekeeping and writing off of this machinery by organs of the Agriculture State Inspectorate. The ministry's leadership has been instructed to improve the work of this service.

Union republic council of ministers presidium commissions for agro-industrial complex questions have in turn been instructed to ensure a reinforcement of the thrift policy at agricultural and water resources enterprises and organizations and to wage a resolute struggle against wastefulness and mismanagement in the use of machinery, equipment, and other material resources in the possession of agro-industrial complex sectors.

The commission examined progress in the implementation of USSR Government decisions on the organization of the production of new packaging materials for the food industry and the preparation of enterprises for the production of canned foods using new materials. Specific measures have been defined providing for the industrial production of these materials in quantities envisaged by these decisions.

The Ministry of Machine Building for Light and Food Industry and Household Appliances has been instructed to complete in the near future the development and organization of the series production of equipment for the production of canned foods using new materials. Competent ministries and departments have been instructed to supply enterprises of the USSR Ministries of the Fish Industry, Meat and Dairy Industry, and Fruit and Vegetable Industry with lacking technical equipment.

CROP VEGETATION CONDITIONS, WEATHER REPORTED

PM221105 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 16 Apr 85 p 1

[Report by agrometeorologist N. Orlov under the rubric "The USSR Hydrometeorological Center Reports": "The Weather and the Crops"]

[Text] Warm weather in the European USSR is helping to rapidly demolish the snow cover and to thaw the ground and make it ready. In the Ukraine, Moldavia, Belorussia, the North Caucasus, the Central Chernozem Region, and the southern Volga Region, winter crops have resumed vegetation within a time period close to the perennial average. In the far west and the south of the Ukraine, in Moldavia, and in the North Caucasus winter wheat has tillered, and in most areas of the autonomous republics of the North Caucasus, in eastern Georgia, southern Armenia, and Azerbaijan wheat and barley underwent stem extension.

South of a line linking Kaliningrad, Orel, and Kostychevka (Volgograd Oblast) buds have swollen on apple, cherry, and plum trees. In the far southwest of the Ukraine and in Moldavia, and also in Krasnodar Kray and the autonomous republics of the North Caucasus buds are opening. In the valleys of Azerbaijan and Georgia, and in places in Armenia the apricot, damson, and early pear have started to flower. In the rest of the European USSR it has grown somewhat cooler. On the whole, average air temperatures have been close to the perennial average.

In the farming regions of West Siberia and in Kazakhstan, mild weather for this time of year has persisted. In West Siberia, winter crops were under snow cover. Conditions were favorable for completing the wintering of plants.

In the republics of Central Asia, warm weather persisted for most of the 10 days. Rain fell almost everywhere. Winter wheat and barley are tillering here. In Turkmenia, in southern Tajikistan, and in places in southern Uzbekistan, these crops underwent stem extension. Ear formation started on pastureland and in places cereal grasses began to flower. Ovaries are developing in the apricot and other stonefruits.